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February 2011

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Horse Show

- 26 Five Questions for Jon Kassel
- 28 On Course with Kim Burnette-Mitchell
- 38 The Death of a Pioneer - Gene Mische
- 40 A Few Minutes with Candace Allen
- 42 My Line



Dressage

- 102 Tina Konyot: Dancing with her Big Black Horse
- 108 A Chat with Walter Zettl – Master of Classical Dressage
- 110 Five Questions for Gary Lane
- 112 The Future Looks Bright for Isabelle Leibler
- 114 Fuego XII and Juan Manuel Munoz Diaz
- 116 Lee Pearson: The Midas Touch
- 118 Life as She Knows It: Courtney King-Dye



Polo

- 124 Polo Kids
- 128 Showtime for Polo Ponies
- 130 Tournaments
- 132 Five Questions for Russ Sheldon



What's Happenin'

- 30 Ingate
- 104 Off Centerline
- 126 Asides

Eventing

- 88 Five Questions for Phillip Dutton
- 90 Sharon White: Riding the Highs & Lows with a Smile

Second Chances

- 78 Two PMU Mares Hear a Different Whisper
- 82 Sometimes, Horses Get Lucky
- 86 Thoroughbred Stallion Frisky Spider in Search of a New Career

Special Features

- 74 For the Love of Horses
- 100 Wild Turkey Farm

Sidelines JR

- 56 Pony Kids
- 60 On Course with Lillian Keenan
- 64 A Few Minutes with Vivian Yowan

On The Cover

Tina Konyot and Calecto V have the London Olympics in sight

- 66 A Few Minutes with Eirin and Lene Bruheim
- 70 Juniorside

Foxhunting

- 96 Five Questions for Sibyl Dance
- 98 What a Grand Hunting Day

Departments

- 4 Letter from the Editor
- 18 Side Shots
- 122 Equine Law
- 120 Sports Psychology
- 20 Horse in Motion
- 77 Needy Nags
- 95 Sidelights

Directories

- 134 Stallions
- 137 Polo Clubs Across America
- 137 Education
- 138 Farms, Barns, Trainers
- 139 Real Estate
- 139 Tack and Feed
- 140 Equestrian Services
- 141 Classified

Incorporating HORSES USA

PUBLISHER
Samantha Charles
samanthac@sidelinesnews.com

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Cornelia Bernard Henderson
editor@sidelinesnews.com
561-309-6636

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR
Erin Gilmore

STAFF WRITERS
Lauren Giannini, Jan Westmark,
Danika Rice

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Johnny Robb, Fred McWane,
Sydney Masters - Durieux,
Sarah Ward

PHOTOGRAPHERS
David Lominska, Jack Mancini, Flashpoint,
Alan Fabricant, Susan Stickle
Lauren R. Giannini, Shawn McMillan
Kim & Allen MacMillan

SIDELINES COLUMNISTS
Dr. Bev Gordon - Horse in Motion
Lisa Hollister, Esq - Equine Law
Ann Reilly - Sports Psychology
Sarah Ward My Line

JUNIORWRITERS
Catie Staszak, Lauren Corey,
Rachel Horowitz

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER
Melissa Burns
melissab@sidelinesnews.com
561-951-4225

ADVERTISING SALES
Joyce Jones
jjones@myacc.net 954-796-1809

CLASSIFIEDS
Sis Hotujec
classifieds@sidelinesnews.com
561-798-4828

CIRCULATION
Bill Tatgenhorst
billt@sidelinesnews.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS
Also for change of address
Gigi Harris
Toll Free 1-877-966-2289
Outside US 1-803-685-5247
gigi@sidelinesnews.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS/DISTRIBUTION
Bill Tatgenhorst
billt@sidelinesnews.com

ART DIRECTOR/PRODUCTION MANAGER
Stan Johansen

AD DESIGN
Cris David
ads@sidelinesnews.com

SIDELINES, INC.
12400 A South Shore Blvd
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Photo by Lauren R. Giannini

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Letter from the Editor

This has proven to be a really interesting issue. Let's start with Lauren Giannini's story on Tina Konyot, one of dressage's most interesting riders, and her big black horse Calecto V who is definitely turning heads.

Add on a profile by Erin Gilmore on Juan Manuel Muñoz Diaz and Fuego XII and we have a great look at the crowd's favorite rider from WEG last October. Erin also visited with Courtney King-Dye, whose recovery is progressing after a near-fatal injury last March. Jan Westmark chatted with Walter Zettl who is still going strong in his 80s and then at the other end of the age spectrum, interviewed Isabelle Liebler, who at 15 is the youngest dressage rider profiled in this issue.

Dressage not your thing? Meet Russ Sheldon, who is a moving force in California polo. Danika Rice caught up with him at Poway, where he is still reffing on Quincy, his 23-year-old polo pony. And another California connection is, of course, Sunny Hale who is very involved in the American Polo Horse Association. Danika got the scoop on this new association's polo pony show, to be held in Florida this month.

We have a smattering of foxhunting, an interview with Sharon White for the eventers out there, and some fun columns. Ann Reilly's column this month is a personal account of her challenges after a devastating injury.

Unwanted horses are on the increase, and we have for some time now been running a Second Chances story in most issues.

This month, we have three such stories – all a bit different, but in each case, it's a story about one of the lucky ones: Frisky Spider, a Thoroughbred stallion with a caring owner who wants very much for him to have a new life; Toci and Koko, a pair of draft mares who spent years in a Premarin barn, and Rachel's Dream, a barely-socialized OTTB who found a little girl to love.

Not all unwanted horses are this fortunate. Their fates are something we don't really want to think about, or if we do, we'd like to put on rose colored glasses and hope that out of sight is indeed out of mind. Well, it isn't. And it isn't pretty. So please, please read "For the Love of Horses". It isn't easy reading for many of us, but Lauren outdid herself in presenting a clear picture of a very serious problem and the options of dealing with unwanted horses. For most of us, horses have crossed the line from livestock to pets or companion animals, and we all want their end to be a kind one.

Just this month, my husband and I had to put Flynn down. He was in his early 30s and still had good weight, was eating, had his teeth and to the casual eye looked great for his age. But he was drinking buckets of water and having trouble evacuating because of a grapefruit-sized tumor covering his anus. He had begun scouring from having to force out manure. He also was a bit dim, mentally. We decided it was time, called the vet, fed him carrots and kissed him goodbye. It was a kindness, but not cheap. Not every horse is this lucky.

And for those that are not that lucky, we would like to see more humane options available to horse owners. Rescues are crowded; some are poorly run. Euthanasia is expensive. Personally, I would rather have the unlucky horses that do end up in the auction-to-

slaughter route put down humanely in America than have to make an arduous trip to the abattoirs in Mexico or Canada. It isn't something we want to think about, but isn't a short trip to a certain death better than a long one, without hay or water along the way? It would be a better place if all our unwanted horses were to go the way Flynn did, a mouth full of carrots in his own barnlot, but that's not the reality for many horses.

So think about it. Try to put emotion aside and think about what really happens, not what you would like to happen in a perfect world.

Then read Lauren's story.

Until next month,
Cornelia Henderson



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PRICE - \$350,000



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PRICE - \$7,800,000



PALM BEACH POINT

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PRICE - \$3,900,000



PALM BEACH POINT

Hack to the Horse Show! This 10 acre property has a well laid out center aisle barn with 10 stalls. The barn also features a 1 bedroom apt., tack room, feed room, and wash stall. Located in desirable Palm Beach Point, this farm is well located and on high and dry land. A 3 bedroom, 2 bath open floor plan home completes the package.

PRICE - \$2,900,000



PALM BEACH POINT

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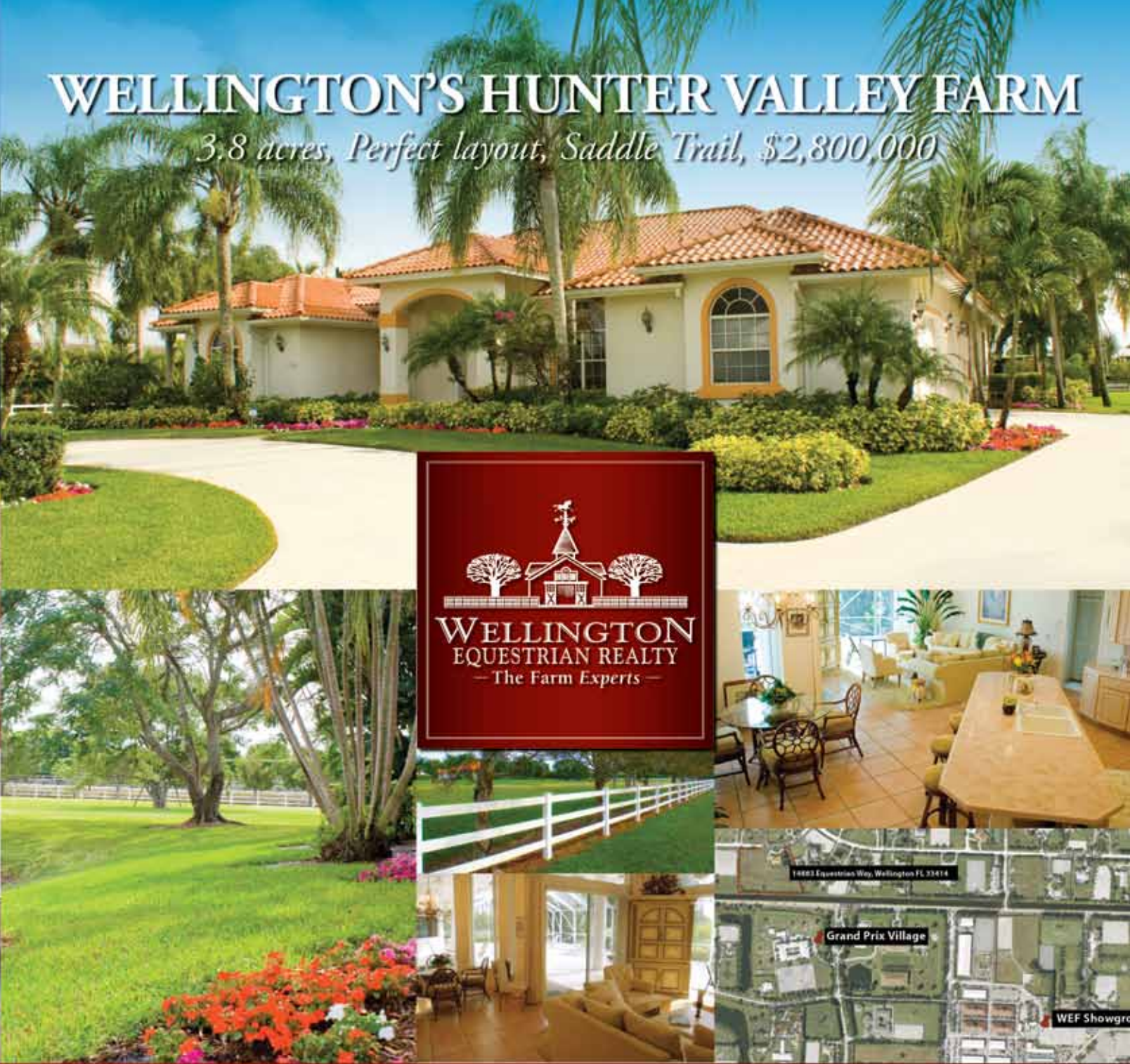
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*Megan Mahoney and the pony Ogeechee went for a swim at the grand opening of Morningside Training Farm in The Plains, VA this past June
Photo by Richard Clay*



*Last one in's a rotten egg
Photo by Paul Stone*



*Para-Dressage Rider & USA Team Member - Kim Decker at the end of her freestyle performance at WEG
Photo courtesy of Lauren Giannini*



Tink Doyle, on her horse Jackson Square and Patty Michalak riding Damn Skippy had fun at a gymkhana sponsored by the all-adults Rusty Stirrups Riding Club, in Hanover, Virginia



*Up close and personal: Jamey and Cortez getting ready
Photo by Stefan Parker*

Welcome to Side Shots, Sidelines' new photo column dedicated to - you! We're seeking your candid photos from around the barn or at the show! If your photo is picked as a Sidelines Side Shot, you win a **free subscription** to Sidelines.

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Schooling the Shoulder-in

By Dr. Beverly Gordon

I have found that beginning shoulder-in exercises opens up a whole maze of confusion for both horse and rider. Prior to this experience, both horses and riders have traveled along straight lines where their bodies have moved as a single unit, with everything facing forward in the direction they are moving. The horse's hind end follows the path of his head, neck and shoulders.

Now we introduce the shoulder-in. The horse's hind end still tracks straight, but unlike before, now he has to move along a straight line with the front of his body and his head pointing inward. Essentially, here the horse has to learn *not* to follow his head, neck and shoulders. To add to this dilemma, the horse now has to adapt to the feeling that his front end is traveling sideways while his hind end is tracking straight.

The horse is not alone in this confusing endeavor. Likewise for the rider, their shoulder position will be at the same inward angle as the horse's shoulders. And just like the horse, the rider's pelvis will remain facing forward, tracking straight along the track.

The "3" Basic Pitfalls

With an inexperienced rider, or green horse, we can expect to see some (or all) of these basic pitfalls. With a more experienced horse and rider, these pitfalls should *never* occur.

- 1- Horse moves along the track with his body straight but his head and neck turned to the inside.
- 2- Horse swings his haunches out to get into the "shoulder-in" position and ends up leg yielding along the track (on 4 tracks instead of 3) with a straight spine and no body bend.
- 3- Horse will try to follow his head and neck and move away from the track toward the inside of the arena.

Many shoulder-in performance issues occur as the result of the rider using too much inside rein, not enough lateral direction, and insufficient support from the inside leg. Less experienced riders often use their inside leg too far behind the girth, or tense their body and forget to use weight aids to direct the horse along the track, or fail to keep their upper body turned and their pelvis straight.

So, now that you know what not to do, let's talk about what you should do to get a good, correctly trained shoulder-in.

Dr. Beverly Gordon is both a licensed human and certified AVCA animal chiropractor, consultant at L.I. Equine Med Center, and President of Gordon Chiropractic. Her background is in exercise physiology and biomechanics of movement. Dr. Gordon's practice is limited to horses and focuses on improving movement and performance at all levels through grand prix. She may be contacted at thehorseinmotion@aol.com or 516-606-4141.



Schooling a Correct Shoulder-in

A correctly ridden shoulder-in is a pleasure to watch. The horse will be moving with his shoulders to the inside, bent around the rider's inside leg, with his inside hind leg following in the track of his outside foreleg. The horse will travel on three tracks instead of four. His weight will be shifted toward his hindquarters and he will move forward freely with a lightened forehand in an appropriately round frame.

Specifically, the horse's shoulders angle away from the track at about 30 degrees, and his bend will be similar to his body position on a 10 meter circle.

Proper schooling of the shoulder-in sets up a solid foundation for all training, since this skill gives the horse the foundation to develop greater suppleness, balance, strength, flexibility, and connection. Unfortunately, improperly schooling the shoulder-in can easily produce undesired effects such as resistances, crookedness, and unsoundness, to name a few. Therefore, the shoulder-in is not only an important skill to include in your training program, but it is essential that you school it correctly.

In order to do this, you need to understand the correct aids.

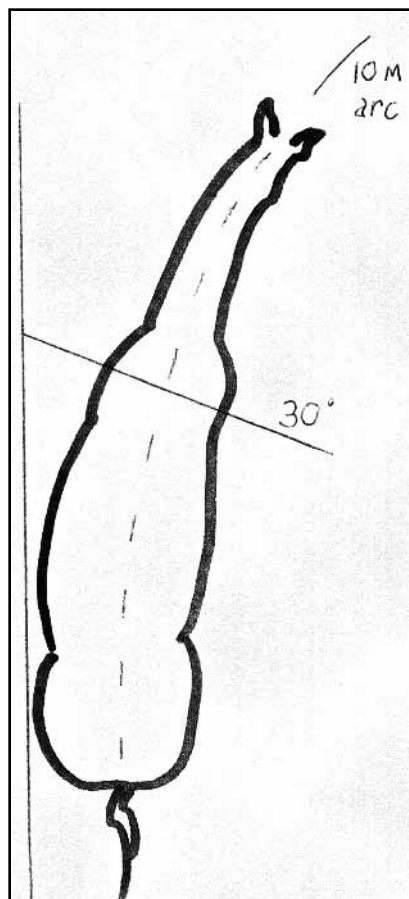
Seat and weight: your shoulders should be turned slightly to the inside at the same angle as your horse's shoulders. Do not twist your pelvis- it should remain on the same angle as your horse's pelvis. Make sure your inside seat bone is weighted enough to bend the horse and your outside seat bone in not blocking his movement down the track. You should be looking in the direction you are going.

Bridle: your reins will help assist the horse's position and direction. Your outside rein supports the horse's shoulder and your inside rein encourages your horse to stay softly flexed toward the inside. *Do not pull on the horse's head in using the inside rein.*

Legs: use your inside leg at the girth to direct your horse's movement along the track. Your leg is slightly behind the girth, passively keeping the haunches from swinging out.

As you come out of the corner, allow your horse's forehand to leave the track as if you were beginning to ride a circle. The moment you feel the forehand begin to leave the track, simultaneously support the horse on

Continued on next page





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the outside rein to keep your horse from leaving the track, and use your inside leg to direct the horse along a path *parallel to the track* and step under his body with his inside leg. Feel as though you are pushing your horse from your inside seat and leg into the outside rein (but be very careful not to lean to the inside.) Begin asking for only a few steps at a time, and always straighten your horse before the next corner.

Note: it is *imperative* that as you come out of the corner the haunches remain in exactly the same position as if the horse were to continue traveling straight along the track. The shoulder-in position is achieved by moving the horse's shoulders to the inside and NOT by moving the haunches to the outside!! It is this component which develops the correct suppleness and bend along the horse's spine, allows for movement on three tracks, and defines the shoulder-in.

Additional Helpful Hints

It is important to understand how the shoulder-in differs from leg yielding along the track. Leg yielding will have the horse on four tracks. Leg yielding has less spinal bend and vertebral rotation, and less engagement behind. As a result, leg yielding does not offer the same advanced schooling benefits as the shoulder-in. For this reason, riders commonly train leg yielding as an introduction to lateral work before attempting shoulder-in.

Remember that the shoulder-in movement is on three tracks, which means the inside hind tracks up on the same line as the outside front leg.

Benefits of Schooling Shoulder-in

- There are many, but here is the 'short list':
- develops increased engagement behind
 - improves inside leg to outside rein connection
 - teaches horse to carry more weight on the hind legs
 - strengthens inside hind leg
 - improves straightness
 - increases suppleness
 - balances the horse and refines self-carriage
 - lightens horses' outside shoulder
 - improves horse's understanding to bend around your inside leg
 - great gymnastic exercise for longitudinal muscle flexibility and hock flexion
 - presents basic preparation for advanced lateral work
 - rider learns greater understanding of aids, weight shift and connection for lateral work
 - helps the rider develop improved muscular independence and relaxation

Final thoughts

The shoulder-in should be introduced at the walk, can be schooled at all gaits, but is commonly trained at the sitting trot. You can however, school it while posting. I find that both the horse and rider can benefit from schooling the shoulder-in while posting on the opposite diagonal.

Some trainers believe it is preferable to introduce the horse to shoulder-fore before beginning shoulder-in.

The horse should bring his forehand off the track as a result of you turning your upper body, and not as a result of pulling the head to the inside with the inside rein.

Horses and riders of all disciplines benefit from schooling shoulder-in.

.....and so will you!

Until next time,
Dr. Bev Gordon

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Five Questions for Jon Kassel

By Rebecca Walton

Over the last decade, Jon Kassel has become a well-known figure in equestrian circles as the gatekeeper of online horse show production. As the founder of Network Identity, Jon has helped develop groundbreaking technology for the horse world. The developer of many equestrian websites and a horse show management program, he is probably best known for his role providing computer services at several prominent shows, most notably those produced by Showplace Productions and Pat Boyle. Jon grew up surrounded by ponies in Virginia but started his professional life working at the Chicago Board of Trade. Drawn back to the horse world through his wife Katie Kappler, he has never looked back.

Sidelines: When and how did you start Network Identity? Where did you get the idea?

JK: In the late '90s I was working as the senior clerk for a commodities trader at the CBOT. It was a demanding, high stress position but it had its moments. I was interested in computers so I finagled some for the office. I started using the web to check up on agricultural news and weather forecasts for work, but it didn't take long to discover all the other interesting stuff being put online. I thought it would be cool to build a little website to promote my girlfriend (now wife) Katie's business, Kappler Farms. Katie, her mother, and I also had an idea for an equestrian news site called the Digital Paddock, so I started using my free time to learn HTML.

There was a dad at Katie's barn starting a new business and he let me know that if I started freelancing as a web designer he'd be my first client. That was the birth of Network Identity. I built an office in an empty garage at Kappler Farms, ordered two phone lines and a desk from Ikea and then went at it with my little Toshiba Satellite laptop.

Sidelines: How has Network Identity grown and changed over the years?

JK: I started out doing just web design and one of my first clients was an equestrian business. I discovered that I really enjoyed programming. Knowing a little bit about horse shows, it seemed there was a real need for organizing results and calculating points for organizations. That ended up becoming my niche and it sustained me through the bursting of the technology bubble.

Sidelines: When did you meet Pat Boyle and how did you begin a partnership together?

JK: The summer after I graduated from Virginia Tech I was working jump crew. I was working a show in Northampton, Massachusetts that put on a team penning themed exhibitor party. They brought in the horses, cows, everything.

Pat was judging there and he and I were on the staff team together. We ended up handily beating all the exhibitor teams and when we were celebrating later I learned that he managed some shows in the Midwest. I mentioned that I'd just met a girl with a barn near Chicago and he agreed to try to give me a little work out there while I searched for a "real" job.

During the three years that I worked in Chicago I'd also



Jon Kassel

Photo by Phelps Media Group

work at Ledges for Pat on the weekends. There was a lot of down time at Ledges in the winter and we would play computer games in Pat's office. Pat thought we needed to be more ambitious than that and Ledges needed new jumps. There was workshop space in a hayloft there. I was starting to teach myself to draw on the computer so I'd design the jumps on it and then go up to the shop with the crew and build them. We'd get called on the radio to make course changes and then run back up to the hay loft.

That initial experience building jumps was my first creative partnership with Pat and it's grown and evolved since. Now I design and maintain the ShowplaceProductions.com website, produce all of Showplace's advertising, prize lists, and marketing materials, provide the entries management software, and help with competition management in a variety of support roles.

Sidelines: How has your partnership benefitted Showplace Productions and how has it grown since its inception?

JK: Pat has always allowed me a lot of creative freedom on the job and in return Showplace Productions benefits from always being on the leading edge in using technology and new ideas in producing competitions. Showplaceproductions.com was one of the first sources of dedicated results and news for a show series online.

Sidelines: What are your hopes for the future of Network Identity and Showplace Productions?

JK: I hope that the equestrian world always looks to see what Showplace Productions is doing and that they'll know I had a hand in it. I hope that we are always known as innovators who put exhibitors first. Based on what I know we have planned for 2011 and on our exciting expansion into Colorado this summer, I have complete confidence that both Pat and I will sustain that vision.

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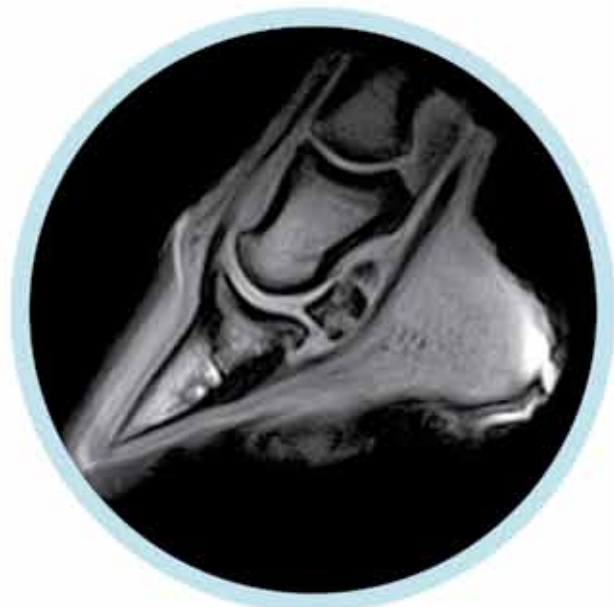
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On Course with Kim Burnette-Mitchell



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By Jan Westmark

Anyone who knows Kim Burnette-Mitchell knows she believes in giving back to the community and the horse industry. One of Kim's big passions is a show she runs in Tennessee called Gallop in the Glen and fondly refers to as a "little Hamptons" experience.

"I want people to leave Gallop in the Glen and feel like they have had the time of their lives," Kim said. "I have had so many people tell me that this is their favorite show of the year and that they look forward to it and can't wait to get back to Tennessee. Part of my goal with Gallop in the Glen is that I want the horse community to enjoy East Tennessee and the folks of East Tennessee to enjoy the horse community. What more could you want, this is a great place to be."

When Kim isn't running Gallop in the Glen, she and her husband, Dennis Mitchell, operate their farm Kimberden. "We have the best of both worlds because we spend half the year at our farm, Kimberden North, in Knoxville, Tennessee, and the other half at Kimberden South in Ocala, Florida."

Kim also stepped up after Hurricane Katrina and started the Animal SOS Rescue, which is still a big part of her life. "It's nice to be able to help those in need of financial assistance for their animals. And as anyone that knows me knows, I take in a lot of strays including goats, pigs, chickens and anything that needs a home. We get them cared for and try to place them in loving homes."

Sidelines: What is your secret to making Gallop in the Glen such a successful show?

KBM: The show is very exhibitor-friendly with parties, dinner and fun activities every night. The exhibitors never need to leave the show grounds to go to dinner at the end of the day, because we make sure they are taken care of. I always laugh and say, "You can be late for the ring, but don't be late for the parties." I am in the barn every evening making sure people come and enjoy the entertainment and great food. My partner and show manager, Patrick Rodes, handles the actual management and it enables me to do the entertaining, decorating and social part of the event.

Sidelines: Do you have sponsors for Gallop in the Glen?

KBM: We have some wonderful sponsors that step up for this show. Dr. Malcom Foster, who is with the Mercy Heart Institute and is a client of ours, is the key to making the financial commitment for the Grand Prix. He believes in the show and has a great love for the sport. He has already mentioned increasing the purse from a \$50,000 Grand Prix to a \$100,000 class, which would be wonderful. Another key player in the event is Rhonda Goble with Icon Sporthorses in Knoxville. She puts up the prize money for the \$25,000 Icon Sporthorse Children's/Adult Challenge. Rhonda wants to see the lower level riders have a nice purse to compete for. I am really lucky because these are amazing people who really believe in the show and what we are doing.

Sidelines: What is your focus at Kimberden?

KBM: Kimberden is a training, showing, and sales operation. We show primarily in the southeast and Midwest and we keep both farms operating year round. We will have groups at several different horse shows most weekends, thanks to our amazing staff of assistant trainers. Kimberden really is a family business. We now have nieces that are riding and we hope that their interest will help it to continue to be a family business.

Sidelines: Do you like training or competing better?

KBM: I love to compete. My husband does the majority of the training along with our assistant trainers. I am the business part of the operation. I am a detailed person and Dennis is not, so it makes for a perfect fit. Dennis always makes sure I have very nice horses ride, which makes his life easier since he is also the one training me.

Sidelines: Have you had a favorite horse over the years?

KBM: Of course, haven't we all! I had, and still have, a great horse named Jappaloe. He enabled me to show and go places and do things that not everyone gets the chance to do. It was a bit of a Cinderella story where Jappaloe was the glass slipper that fit and changed the course of my riding career. He is retired at our farm in Ocala, along with all of my old grand prix horses. They always stay with me and they all have a great life

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Catching up: We heard that everyone who knows him tried to get on **Eric Lamaze's** list for presents. We hear he only shops at **Lora Piano!** Nice gifts, folks!

Congratulations to **Guy Thomas** of Woodside, CA. Guy was named as the Pacific Coast Horseman's Association's 2010 Rider of the Year. Guy's many accomplishments in 2010 included winning the Northern California Triple Crown of Show Jumping, and competing at the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games for New Zealand with his home-bred stallion Peterbilt.

Seems like the **Wellington Chamber of Commerce Equestrian Committee** is coming on strong. The co-



Sarah Orberson-Taylor left her horses back at the barn for her first anniversary celebration with her husband Andy during the holidays. Instead of flowers, diamonds, or designer duds, the landscape supervisor gave his wife, who rides and trains with Finally Farm in SC, her dream gift - a 10-week-old Imperial Shih Tzu puppy that they dubbed Fendi. The little guy joins their Miniature Shi Tzu, Coco (as in Chanel), and their equally cute Cavachon pooch, Gucci in the house, as well as their jumper True Religion and hunters Love & Luck and Macket in the stable

Sara Lyter of HulinnDalur Farm in Tryon, North Carolina, shows off her Icelandic Horse Alur, during the Tryon Barn Tour to benefit FENCE. Lyter recently moved to Tryon and raises Icelandic Horses. HulinnDalur means Hidden Valley in Icelandic, and the farm is home to 12 Icelandic horses

Photo by Jan Westmark



chairman of the committee are **Victor Connors** and **Mason Phelps** and they are taking their role as equestrian leaders very seriously. Watch out, these guys mean business!

Oopsie! Can you imagine if you are paying a public relations company to promote your property and you see a typo that talks about your "panty" when they meant to say "pantry"??

Yikes! Lock your tackrooms! **Meadow Grove Training Stables** in Lake View Terrace, California had 18 high performance saddles stolen in the night in late November. Thieves knew what they were doing: they took eight Antares, five Amerigos, and one each CWD and Devoucoux. Most of the saddles had identifying numbers stamped on them and nameplates so there will be holes where they were removed.... If you're in California and you have ANY information of any kind call iJump at 714-797-1404.

Continued on page 32



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Continued from page 30

On the move: Michael Tokaruk closed his barn in Aiken and is now riding and training for Andre Dignelli at Heritage Farm. Good luck on this exciting move, Michael.

Ashley Herman-Griffin, manager of the Sonoma Horse Park in Northern California, made the most of her off-season by working some of the biggest European Indoor shows in November and December. She oversaw the VIP at both the Audi Masters in Brussels and the Gucci Masters in Paris. Ashley says that "it was an eye-opening experience and I was blown away by the quality and opulence of these shows. The organizers are above anything else, focused on promoting the sport and expanding its audience." We can't wait to see what parts of that European show experience she brings to the SHP's 2011 season!

Also in Northern California, Pickwick Equestrians has partnered with Leone Equestrians to present a \$10,000 Triple Crown Series of Hunter Derbies this season. Beginning in April at the Capital City Spring Classic, three \$2,500 Hunter Derbies will be offered during shows at Leone Equestrians, with a \$2,500 bonus for the highest total scorer after the 3 events. **Rudy Leone**, who envisioned and created the very popular Sacramento International "indoor" show held each fall, is part of the team behind this new venture. As always, Rudy's dedication in bringing more exposure to Northern California's show scene is admirable!

Congratulations: Susie Schoellkopf and Jennifer Alfano were given the President's Distinguished Service Award and the Rider Recognition Award for 2010, respectively, at the USHJA Evening of Equestrians Awards Dinner, during the 6th annual USHJA meeting held in Texas. Jen's award, whose her cash earnings in 2010 were just above \$400,000, was given for the most money won as a hunter rider!



Reve Walsh and Ann Scott joined forces for a whirlwind holiday fox hunting trip that took them from Live Oak Hounds to Mooreland Hunt. From left to right: Mary Marshall VanSant (Mooreland Hunt, Field Master) Ann Scott (Live Oak Hounds) Evie Mauldin (jt. MFH and Field Master, Mooreland), and Reve Walsh (Live Oak Hounds)

Anthony D'Ambrosio was named the USHJA's "2010 Course Designer of the Year" for the second time. He couldn't attend the event as he was building courses for a national championship in Ecuador. Other featured honorees included **Danny Robertshaw** and **Col. John Russell** as USHJA Lifetime Achievement Award winners.

The City Council of Milton, Georgia recently honored long time resident **Hunt Tosh**, who earlier this year won the Chronicle of the Horse/United States Hunter Jumper Association International Hunter Derby Final in Lexington, Ky. He added the title to his growing list, including being the 2009 World Champion in the

Continued on page 34

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Continued from page 32

Hunter Rider Professional Finals. Milton's Council honored Hunt, who lives in Milton with his wife and daughter, because of the way he has made his hometown famous in the equestrian world.

In December, **Katie Prudent** was elected to the board of directors of the **International Jumping Riders Club**. Katie was nominated by the North American Riders Group. NARG has charged her with the task of unifying North American riders and International riders in their collective efforts to advance the sport of show jumping. If anyone can do it, it's Katie!

Horses: Legendary mare **GG Valentine** has done it again: not in the show ring, but as a mother after having another incredible baby. Due to her amazing success both as a championship hunter and a fantastic broodmare, BREYER has released a new model horse of GG Valentine with the colt Heartbreaker. GG Valentine and her rider **Jennifer Alfano** were one of the leading hunter combinations in the nation from 2001 to 2007. In 2007 at the Devon Horse Show, GG Valentine was retired in a special ceremony, accompanied by Jennifer, owner **Barbara Kearney**, and trainers **Susie Schoellkopf**, **Emil Spadone** and **Sharon O'Neill**.

Horse Show News: Horse Shows by the Bay Equestrian Festival is pleased to announce that SERIES II of the four week back-to-back series of Hunter/Jumper shows has been selected by member vote as a World Champion Hunter Rider event.



Del Val team members jump for joy for coming in on top in the collegiate Holiday Tournament of Champions: from left to right IHSA National Secretary and Tournament of Champions Producer Jim Arrigon, Del Val Assistant Coach Emily Miller, Kelsey Ficara, Kristin Lawrence, Sarah Mallon, Ciara Menkens, Gianna Grupp, Chelsea Koerper, Melissa Milligan, Coach Cory Kieschnick
Photo by Chelsea Koerper

The United States Equestrian Team Foundation's new website has undergone many changes to create a vibrant new look, thanks to talented designer **Miriam Morgan**. The site still features all of the important information that supporters need, only now in a new, more user-friendly space. Go see for yourself at USET.org.

The Brandywine Summer Series is holding two new shows at the Devon show grounds this year. Featuring a full complement of divisions (hunters, jumpers and equitation along with a local day) this show is going to be a winner. **Jennifer Burger** and **Jill Grant**

Continued on page 36

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Andy Rosenberg - mobile: 011-54 9 11 5333 0215

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Continued from page 34

are the acting chairpersons, **Mike Rhineheimer** is the manager and **Louise Serio** is the driving force behind this much talked about new show. These two shows will go up against the Lake Placid dates so you have to decide now where you want to be.

Charities: The EQUUS Foundation welcomed **Tiffany & Co. of Palm Beach Gardens** as the Title Sponsor for its **Equestrian Idol "All Stars" Musical Cabaret** on Friday, February 4, in Wellington. **Lynn Coakley** was the driving force behind the fun.



Jennifer Magee and Jessica Baum celebrated their birthdays together on November 13th at the Palm Beach International Polo Club in Wellington. In lieu of gifts, the girls decided to choose a charity and ask guests to donate. They chose Habitat for Horses and raised almost \$1,000. For more information, please visit www.habitatforhorses.org

Liz Olsezewski, founder of **Horses Healing Hearts USA**, a nonprofit in Lake Worth, Fla. that works with children of alcoholics and addicts, recently contacted **The Rider's Closet** for a shipment of much-needed boots and clothing. After receiving the items, Liz wrote a heartfelt thank-you letter that was signed by her riders. She noted that they "feel like true equestrians now and are feeling very proud." This sentiment is echoed again and again in riders' notes of appreciation to **Georgina Bloomberg** and The Rider's Closet volunteers.

After a random drawing, 29 non-profits were chosen to compete against defending charity champion **Step By Step Foundation** at the **2011 FTI Great Charity Challenge** during the FTI Winter Equestrian Festival. Step By Step founder **Liliane Stransky**, daughter **Daniela**, and family's trainer/rider **Hector Florentino Stransky** cheered on their champion Olympian **Margie Engle**, who was the anchor for their international charity's team in 2010, during the 20 show jumping competitions held during Horsefest in downtown West Palm Beach. One "wild card" charity slot is still available, and Equestrian Sport Production CEO Mark

Bellissimo hopes the donations for this year's relay competition reach \$1 million.

Congratulations: **Pablo** and **Joaquina Barrios** welcomed a new addition to their family, son **Nicolas**, who was born just before Christmas.

Friends gathered on January 9th to celebrate the life of **Jay Matter** after the Grand Prix at the International Club at the WEF Showgrounds in Wellington. Entertainment, food and beverages were donated, and friends shared their best Jay stories. "Jay didn't want a memorial service, he wanted a party to celebrate all of the living he got to do," Jay's widow, **Dee Thomas** said.



Gen. Samy Negm El Din, FEI President HRH Princess Haya and Sheikh Mohammed Bin Isa Al Fairouz, President of the Omani Equestrian Federation, at the 2006 FEI General Assembly in Kuala Lumpur.

Passing: **General Samy Negm El Din** of Egypt, an FEI official in jumping and technical consultant to the Omani National Federation, passed away on December 4. He was 64. From 2000 to 2001 he served as a board member of the Egypt Equestrian Federation and was a technical consultant to the Omani National Federation until his sudden death. Gen. Samy Negm El Din was a member of the FEI World Cup™ Jumping Arab League Sub-Committee and was instrumental in the organization of many international events in show jumping and tent pegging (otherwise known as jousting) in the region. He played a key role in setting up the International Tent Pegging Committee in 2008.

If you are reading this before January 30 and are in South Florida, you don't want to miss the **Sidelines Equestrian Tetrathlon presented by FarmVet**, at the Jim Brandon Equestrian Center in West Palm.

So what is an equestrian tetrathlon? Four team members, a jumper, polo player, dressage rider and reiner all take a turn at one another's discipline to the delight (and often amusement) of the crowd.

It's for a good cause, too: the Equestrian Aid Foundation is the beneficiary, and there will be a great after party starting at 10 PM. Tickets are available by calling 704-650-1604 or at rsvp@equestrianaidfoundation.org. Be there!

News to share: New baby, engagement, pickup truck? On the move, having parties, falling off horses? Share what's happenin' with your horse show friends by e-mailing us at editor@sidelinesnews.com. Be sure to put "News for Ingate" in the subject line.

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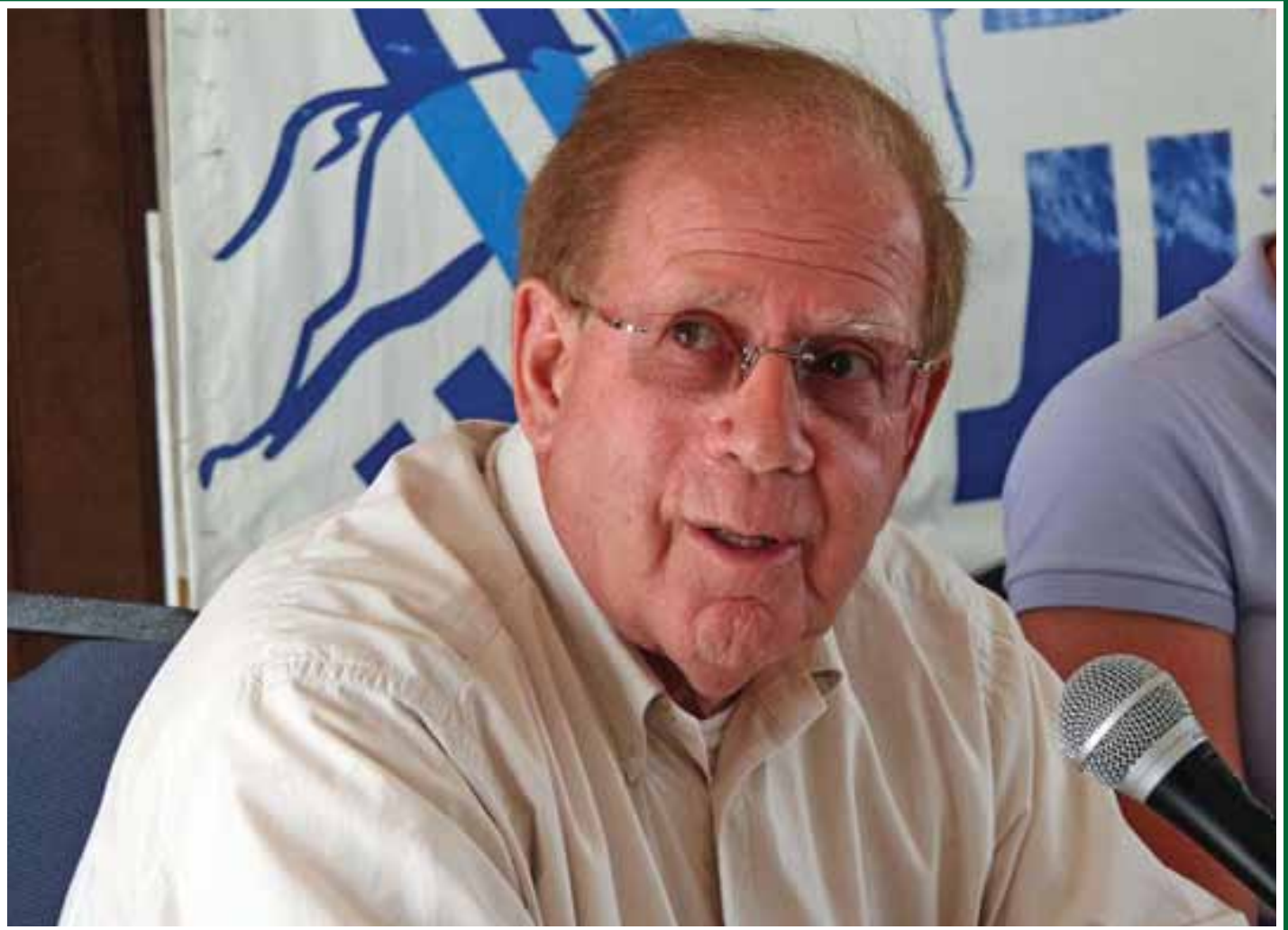
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The Death of a Pioneer

Gene Mische Passes Away at 79

By Kenneth Kraus/PhelpsSports.com

The horse world lost one of its true pioneers of the sport recently when legendary horseman Eugene R. Mische, the founder of Stadium Jumping, Inc., passed away on Friday evening, December 3rd, 2010, following a long, hard fought battle with cancer.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, on June 26, 1931, Mische, more than any horseman in history, changed the face of horse sports in the United States, and especially in the Village of Wellington, Florida.

The area that is now the Village of Wellington was no more than a crossroads when Mische first arrived in the area to expand what was then called the Sunshine Circuit, a series of horse shows with stops in Winterhaven, Ocala and other spots on Florida's west coast. Mische felt that it was important to draw the equestrian competition to South Florida, and his crowning achievement, the Winter Equestrian Festival, is now the largest and longest consecutively running sporting event in the world, each season drawing thousands of competitors and their accompanying support teams to Wellington.

Since the inception of the Winter Equestrian Festival in the

late 80s, the competition has grown from three show rings and a couple of hundred horses, to a massive undertaking that begins in January and runs through April each year. It now encompasses nearly a dozen competition areas and is the winter home to over ten thousand of the world's finest horses and riders.

All of South Florida, and especially the Village of Wellington, benefits from that amazing Mische vision of nearly three decades ago.

Mische was the founding president of the Wellington Equestrian Alliance and was deeply involved in a host of equestrian related issues that ranged from the creation of the Wellington Equestrian Preserve Area in the Village's Comprehensive Plan, to ensuring that the Village's codes and regulations help protect and enhance the equestrian community.

"I don't know if there's any one thing that I'll be remembered for, but I hope when they judge me, they look at the overall contributions I've made and Stadium Jumping has made to the sport and to the industry," Mische said last fall. "We were the innovators of so many things the horse world takes for granted these days. We were the first company to ever have multiple shows, for more than one week, on a single show grounds. Now look at what you see across the nation, huge circuits of four, five, six, seven and twelve weeks, all in one place. I am so proud that



In February 2009, Gene was honored in a special ceremony during the Winter Equestrian Festival. Joining him were Craig Lindner, Jerry Jacobs, George Morris, Mark Bellissiom, Kathy Foster and Kim Tudor

Gene Mische was the most fiercely loyal person I have ever known. His loyalty and belief in Sidelines made it all happen for us. Gene was also a personal friend for 20 some years, with whom I spent many an evening dining with and even some Christmases in church. He and Bill Ylvisaker "created" the incredible horse world in Wellington, and both men will continue to live in my heart as good friends. Without the two of them most of us would not have a Wellington and the amazing world of horses that we have all lived, enjoyed and prospered in. May God bless both men; they are probably up there deciding the next big polo game and horse show together!!

- Samantha Charles, Sidelines Publisher



Gene gave television personality Roxanne Stern a tour of the showgrounds as it should be seen: from horseback!

we were able to create in Wellington, the greatest horse show circuit in the world," he said.

Mische went on to say, "I think there are so many contributions that we've made to the sport over the years. I'd be happy to be remembered for any one of them. I feel that I've been blessed to be a part of this great sport and was able to do what I did."

Over the course of his stellar career, Mische managed the most prestigious shows in America including the Budweiser American Invitational, American Grand Prix Association National Jumper Championship, New Albany Classic, Lake Placid and I Love New York Shows, Charlotte Jumper Classic, the American Gold Cup, USEF National Jumper Championships, and the National Horse Show. Other Stadium Jumping Inc. productions included

the Olympic Games Show Jumping Team Selection Trials in 2000 and 2004, and the World Equestrian Games Show Jumping Team Selection Trials in 2002 and 2006.

Mische was instrumental in bringing international caliber sport to this nation. In 1980, Mische was part of the five-member Organizing Committee that brought the first World Cup to the U.S. In 1989, Mische and Stadium Jumping, Inc. produced the second Volvo World Cup ever held in the U.S., this time hosting it in Tampa. In 2002, Mische produced the first-ever outdoor Nations' Cup, hosting it at the International Arena in Wellington. Mische was inducted into the Show Jumping Hall of Fame in 2000 and was also awarded the Jimmy Williams Lifetime Achievement from the United States Equestrian Federation.

A Few Minutes with Candace Allen

By Erin Gilmore

There's finding your calling, and then there's finding your calling and doing it well. Candace Allen found hers when she handed in her amateur card for professional status just over two years ago. But when the 26-year-old went to work as assistant to her longtime trainer Benson Carroll of Carmel Valley, California, it quickly became clear that training professionally was not only Candace's calling, it was her greatest talent.

Benson's Ventana Farm is home to some of the West Coast's most well-known junior and amateur riders, and they credit Candace for playing a key role in helping them net some of the West's most well-known Equitation and Medal Finals.

"I think of Candace as a good luck charm," says student Clementine Yost. "When she is at the show with me, I win."

Sidelines: Why did you make the leap from riding as an amateur to being a pro?

Candace Allen: I've been riding all my life, and I started riding for Benson in 2000. I was his working student as a junior and young amateur. It's always been my dream to do this profession, to wake up and ride horses every day. When I finished college at Chico State University, I decided that there was nothing else I wanted to do but ride.

Sidelines: Have you found coaching to be a challenge, or has it come easy to you?

CA: Teaching's come really easy to me, which is a blessing. At the beginning, it was one of those things where Benson's

been such a good teacher and mentor, and I'd been under his program for so long that it was an easy transition to start teaching his system.

Benson and I teach the same program, and it's extremely valuable. We teach all of the same principles and tailor it to each one of our riders. We put our horses first, and the soundness and safety of our horses is our number one priority.

Sidelines: Can you tell us some of your students' top accomplishments?

CA: Adrienne Dixon won the 2009 Sacramento International Equitation Championship, and placed in the top ten of the 2009 NorCal Medal Final with Clementine Yost. Sophie Verges won the 2009 California Professional Horseman's Association Foundation Equitation Final and Adrienne was 3rd, and this year Adrienne won the Sonoma Equitation championship and Julia Nagler was 3rd. Adrienne also won the 2010 CPHA Amateur Finals and Julia was reserve in the 2010 CPHA Junior Finals.

Sidelines: What's the most important part of your day?

CA: The most important thing is the well being of our horses, every day. We make sure that every horse we have in training is happy and healthy and comfortable as can be. So every day the most important thing I do is walk through the barn, check on everything and keep up the standard of care in the barn that we promise.

Sidelines: What does the future hold for you?

CA: I hope to be able to keep doing what I'm doing for as long as I can. I've been with Ventana Farm and Benson for ten years now and I want to be part of a strong program for as long as I can.



Candace Allen, flanked by students Megan Ahart, left, and Makenna Ehnisz, right

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My Line: 2011 WEF, A New Perspective From the Ground

By Sarah Ward

I can't believe it, but 2011 is here! With the onset of the coldest season of the year, when the temperatures drop below zero, riding can be necessity rather than a pleasure for some. But for the truly lucky, cold weather means time to head for the winter circuits from coast to coast. For sure it is a luxury, but for professionals, competitors and horses - it is the only logical, even sane, option to keep them in the show ring year round!!! Whether it is my favorite, the FTI Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF), or the Jacksonville Winter Series, the Gulf Coast Winter Classics, or HITS' Thermal or Arizona series, the balmy weather beckons and the A-circuit world heads to warmer climates for a few months...

Everyone at Finally Farm heads to sunny - and sometimes rainy - Palm Beach International Equestrian Center in Wellington, Florida. I have to admit, WEF is one of my all time favorite places to be, where top riders and horses from around the world compete for top dollar. Luckily for me, the gorgeous grounds are very close to my family's house, so the commute is short.

Benched

But this season, I'm going to have a completely different view - from the ground! This will be the first time that I can remember that I won't be able to ride at WEF. *Bummed* is not even the word! I tore my ACL in fall of 2009, and had put off knee surgery as long as possible in order to keep showing. Although I'll be "fixed" by WEF, it won't mean I'll be back in the saddle!!! My goal was to ride in WEF's Hunter Week, my favorite, but recovery from my knee operation is not going nearly as quickly as I want!

No, this time round I am a spectator, pure and simple! Yes, I'll see my friends, cheer on my stable mates, and

Sarah Ward is currently living in Atlanta. When recovered from knee surgery, Sarah rides with Finally Farm's Jack Towell and Liza Towell-Boyd and competes with Finally Farm in the hunters and jumpers in both the amateur and open divisions.



watch the international grand prix and hunter derby competitions under the lights in the International Arena. I'll enjoy the limitless offerings on the grounds, but I can honestly say it won't be the same. Nothing I can do about it though, my knee surgery has put me out of the game for the beginning of this year anyway!

At least there is plenty to do at WEF - even from the ground! WEF is so much more than just a horse show; it's a horse city. There is every kind of shopping - from jewelry to clothing to home décor, unbelievable food choices, fun-filled competitions and charity events, lounges and bars, and even an Internet room with free access for those who can't leave the computer. For me, this is all great, but I still feel most at home back at the Finally Farm barn, or either watching or riding in the competitions.

The Art of Observation

Sitting on the sidelines and watching from the ground is painful. But this winter offers a different type of education, and one I will put to good use when I am back riding and competing! There isn't

a time when you are around horses, great riders and trainers, that you don't learn something. I'll watch the schooling rings, listen in on lessons, and see who puts in the winning rounds.

This year holds many major things I will have to deal with for the first time, both in my riding career and personal life. There are many "unknowns," and hopefully things go well. I'm blessed to have a strong family, wonderful friends, great trainers (and amazing horses) all there to back me up and help dust me off when it's time to get me back into the saddle. With a little luck, and a lot of hard work, things will be put right!

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Single family home located in the upscale area of Bent Cypress. This home overlooks the Prestigious Dunes Golf Course. Large 2.5 car garage, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Marble floors, Plantation shutters. Kitchen renovations completed. Private corner lot. \$795,000

PALM BEACH POLO'S ISLAND LAKE NORTH

Highly upgraded Bungalow located on the heart of one of the largest lakes in the Polo Club. Wood beamed ceilings give this home a cottage feeling. Large enclosed courtyard perfect for children and pets. \$599,000



PALM BEACH POLO'S BROOKSIDE

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Beautiful views over the Dunes Golf Course. Exceptional floorplan featuring 5 bedrooms, library, loft, 3 car garage and ample storage. Volume ceilings, private tropical pool. Numerous extras. Must see! \$1,195,000



PALM BEACH POLO'S EAST LAKE BUNGALOWS

Charming and impeccably maintained, this custom Bungalow features 4 BR and 3.5 Baths and is being offered fully furnished and appointed! Southern exposure over water w/ fountain makes this a must see! \$349,000

PALM BEACH POLO'S MAIDSTONE

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Lush landscaping and privacy are featured in this 3 bedroom, 3 bath Shady Oaks. Tile throughout the living areas and carpet in bedrooms. Tranquil pool area. \$499,000

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Superb location in the heart of Palm Beach Polo overlooking several fairways on the Cypress Golf Course. Recently renovated with granite countertops, wood and marble floors thru-out. Large awning capturing the picturesque views. Must see! \$519,000



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Exceptional value-Single family Pebblewood Bungalow. 3 bedrooms 3 full baths. Large private tropical courtyard with Jacuzzi. Updated with Idlewild custom cabinets and doors. New kitchen and baths. A must see, this Bungalow is the only one of it's kind. This single family home is not attached to any common walls. The home has a 600 S.F. screened patio overlooking a large lagoon. The large tropical courtyard gives privacy and room for your dogs. \$549,500

PALM BEACH POLO'S OAK TREE ESTATES

Beautiful Estate home on oversized lot. Extremely open floorplan with lots of natural light. French doors open to covered patio and beautiful pool area. Completely renovated kitchen and oversized family room. Must see! \$2,250,000



PALM BEACH POLO'S WINDSOR WAY

Superb location overlooking the Dunes Golf Course featuring beautiful sunsets. New roof, completely remodeled kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite counter tops. Hurricane shutters. Private location. Brazilian cherry floors in the den. \$439,000

PALM BEACH POLO'S PEBBLEWOOD BUNGALOWS

Immaculate updated and on the finest waterview lot in the subdivision! This 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 car garage Bungalow is move in ready and priced for quick sale! \$379,000



PALM BEACH POLO'S LAS CASITAS

Beautifully updated villa with spectacular southwest views of the Dunes Golf Course and lake. Great enclosed pool and patio area. Perfect for those victory parties. \$415,000

PALM BEACH POLO'S WINDSOR WAY

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Ocean Breeze Farm - Palm Beach Point



The ultimate Equestrian Paradise is situated on 10+ acres, just a short hack away from WEF. This private setting is architecturally impeccable featuring a main house offering 4BR and 4.5 baths with endless details supported by a 100KW backup generator and protected by impact glass throughout. While the main house might be considered the center piece, the barn and improvements are second to none including: 6 stalls with tack room, feed room, 2 room apt., oversized ring, round pen, numerous paddocks and more. Every conceivable detail has been implemented in a horse friendly way. Please call for a brochure detailing all the improvements. \$8,375,000 Call Don Langdon or Kristina Sample.



WELLINGTON FARM
Gorgeous 10 acre working horse farm. Private gated entry, large grass paddocks, huge sand ring, 12 X 12 stall horse barn with grooms quarters. Three bedroom, three bath, 2 story home. Close to Polo and showgrounds. A must see! \$1,990,000 Call Ryan Beckett.

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PALM BEACH POINT



Incredible property and location! 5 paddocks and sand ring (both irrigated) grass ring area, 9 stall custom barn, 2 grooming stalls, automatic fly sprayers. CBS construction, auto diesel generator, office/tack room, separate entrance to the house. \$4,885,000
Call Casey Flannery.



SADDLE TRAIL PARK



Superb location with direct access to WEF. Incredibly spacious 4BR/4.5BTH home with amazing pool area. State of the art barn includes 15 stalls, 2 BR apartment, 2 wash stalls, tack room, feed/storage area, paddocks, horse walker & oversized sand ring. \$5,800,000
Call Kristina Sample.

HALCYON FARM



Paradise for horse and rider. 16+ acres of tranquil lakefront setting. Trot to WEF Equestrian Center, 2 gated entrances, Oversized covered lighted arena with mirrors, Large grass jumping/riding field, 20 grass paddocks with shade trees, 12 X 12 stalls, 4 inside washracks, Fly spray system, Reverse osmosis water system. Two tack/2 feed & 2 laundry rooms, 3 large storage bays, 2 grooms apts. 2 baths. Additional security fencing around perimeter. Second floor Owner's Apt. with Brazilian Walnut flooring, granite kitchen and bath overlooking entire property. \$9,900,000 Call Ron Neal.



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PALM BEACH POINT FARM



Fabulous Equestrian compound on 16 acres. Main house features 4BR/6BTH with amazing living areas. 2BR guest house. New 14 stall barn with tack and feed rooms and 2 spacious apartments. Oversized sand ring, spectacular covered arena, paddocks and more. \$9,500,000 Call Kristina Sample.

MALLET HILL



Walk to horse show. Exclusive equestrian gated community. Easy access to Grand Prix area. 4 BR's 5 full and 1/2 bath. Located on contiguous parcels. Large screened patio and pool. Open floorplan in very private setting. This home includes many major upgrades. This property is secured with large canal system that makes this property it's own peninsula. Zoned and approved for agriculture. The large size of the property allows for future 12+ stall barn. Horse turnout and paddocks in place allow for temporary tented stalls. \$5,195,000 Call Tom Baldwin.

SHAMROCK LANE FARM



5-Acre horse farm with 8 stalls in the main barn and 4 stalls in the second barn. 4 turnouts, grass ring, dressage ring and jumping ring. The main barn has a large tack room and a one bedroom apartment. \$1,250,000 Call Mark Norman.

WELLINGTON FARM



The best value for a working horse farm in Wellington! 32 Stalls and 13 pony stalls, 3 sand rings, 1 grass ring. 10 acre property which consists of 2-5 acre parcels with an entrance off 57th or 55th. Barn has rider's lounge, apartment, office! 4 Bedroom 2 Full bath Estate home with gorgeous pool! \$1,950,000 Call Ryan Becket.



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Pony Kids

Name: Brooke Eden
Hometown: Milton, Georgia
Age: 11
Trainer: Carolyn Bell, Fortitude Farms
Which is your favorite pony? Creme Brulee
Which pony would you like to ride? Starlight
How did you get into riding? My good friend Lauren invited me to watch her riding lesson...and I loved it!
What is your favorite horse show? Pony Finals
What was the high point in your riding career? Winning Year End Champion, 2010 GHJA Childrens Hunter Pony Division
What was the low point? Getting "bucked off" at a Conyers horse show.
Who is your equestrian idol? Bezie Madden
Other than riding what do you do? Swim, snow ski, shop and be with my family and friends.
What are your plans for the future? Compete in the Pony Finals, the Medal and Maclay...and eventually ride for a Division 1 Equestrian Team.

Brooke Eden and Crème Brulee
 Photo by Flashpoint Photography



Want to be a Pony Kid?

Fill out this easy questionnaire and e-mail it to editor@sidelinesnews.com. Be sure to include a photo scanned at a minimum of 300 dpi, and tell us who took the picture.

Name:
 Hometown:
 Age:
 Ponies:
 Trainers:

Of all the ponies you've ridden, which is your favorite?
 What pony would you like to ride?
 How did you get into riding?
 What is your favorite horse show?
 What was the high point in your riding career?
 What was the low point?
 Who are your Equestrian Idols?
 Other than riding, what do you do?
 What are your plans for the future?

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Commanding 7.1 acres at the entrance to the exclusive South Forty Polo Club, this complete facility includes 2 barns with 27 stalls, 3 grooms' apartments, a separate owner's apartment with enclosed garage, and 4 large irrigated paddocks. Offering includes membership in the private South Forty Polo Club with tournament polo field, stick & ball field, 5/8 mile track and training area.
\$2,800,000

**PREMIER POLO FACILITY
SOUTH FORTY POLO CLUB, WELLINGTON**



Offered for the first time in South Forty's 30 year history, this 7 acre polo facility (Lot 2) in the equity member-owned South Forty Polo Club includes a 16 stall barn, two apartments and two tack rooms together with 4 large paddocks and automated hotwalker. Offering includes membership in the private South Forty Polo Club with tournament polo field, stick & ball field, 5/8 mile track and training area.
Reduced to \$1,900,000

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LOXAHATCHEE, FLORIDA**



Turn-key equestrian farm with end of the road privacy and paved road access. Property is extensively improved including luxury 4,500 sf residence, plus separate caretakers home, extensive equestrian improvements including numerous pastures and two barns with 10 stalls, and out-buildings
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**100-ACRE EQUESTRIAN DEVELOPMENT
INVESTMENT TRACT, LOXAHATCHEE**



Largest available tract remaining on Southern Blvd. in Loxahatchee at hard corner/signalized intersection to Wellington. Available for equestrian AG/AR use with future commercial potential. **\$15,000,000 (\$150,000 /ac)**

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**BANK FORECLOSURE
GULFSTREAM POLO**



One of the largest properties in Gulfstream Polo, this 29.25-acre farm is situated adjacent to the practice fields and includes a 22-stall polo barn, large pond and operating palm tree nursery. Bank owned as a result of a recent foreclosure, this property has been priced for immediate sale and presents a discounted investment opportunity. Other foreclosure opportunities available
Price: \$3,300,000 (\$112,820/acre)

LAND FORECLOSURE OPPORTUNITIES

Atlantic Western has been recently retained by a number of financial institutions in connection with various land foreclosures and REO properties in Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie & Indian River Counties presenting terrific agricultural, equestrian and investment opportunities. Call for details

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Commonly referred to as the *Glenspur Development Tract*, this 112-acre parcel is one of the few development/investment opportunities remaining in Wellington. Glenspur is strategically located adjacent to the current Littlewood Horse Show Grounds and enjoys recorded bridle path easement access directly to Grand Prix Farm and the WEP Equestrian Center & Showgrounds. Fully approved site plan & plat for sub-division into ten (10) ten-acre equestrian tracts, the Glenspur Development tract presents a rare investment and development opportunity in the Wellington market.

**REDUCED LAST YEAR TO \$24,000,000 - NOW FURTHER REDUCED TO
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On Course With Junior Rider Lillie Keenan

By Jan Westmark

Junior rider Lillie Keenan made history in late 2010 when she became one of the youngest riders ever to win a Big Equitation Final. Keenan triumphed through three rounds of the WIHS Equitation Finals to win the class aboard Uno, a horse she borrowed from Madeline Turner and had only ridden for two weeks.

While Lillie's accomplishment in the WIHS was one of many for the 13-year-old rider from New York City, her biggest claim to fame occurred at Pony Finals. In 2007, Lillie won all three regular pony hunter divisions at Pony Finals and followed it up at the 2008 Pony Finals by winning five out of six possible championships.

"I am really happy that I won the WIHS Equitation Final, but I also love the ponies and I still do," Lillie says. "I would have to say the highlight of my career so far would be Pony Finals."

Lillie, who is in eighth grade, began riding when she was 6. "I tried every activity from violin and piano to gymnastics and ice hockey. I even performed in the Nutcracker at Lincoln Center. When I was six I found a brochure for Claremont Riding Academy in New York City and started riding there. Unfortunately it closed down a few years ago. I loved it there."

Sidelines: Who do you train with now?

LK: I train with Patricia Griffith, Andre Dignelli and Laena Romond at Heritage Farm. I love the whole Heritage team because everyone is doing whatever they can to help you win, while making it fun.

Sidelines: Congratulations on winning the WIHS Equitation Final. Did you expect to win?

LK: I did not expect to win but I knew my horse had it in him. I had a temperature the night before the show, and the next morning my fever was 103. My mom made me stay in bed for 16 hours. I wasn't positive I was even going to be able to show!

Sidelines: How did you end up riding Uno?

Lillie's Favorite Things:

Food: Chocolate

TV show: Hawaii Five-O

Color: Purple

Class in school: Math

Type of candy: Shockers

Number: 7

Type of horse: Westfalen

Place to travel to: Holland



Lillie and Uno winning the WIHS Equitation Finals

Photo by Diana De Rosa

LK: My usual ride turned up with an unfortunate injury before finals. I didn't get to ride Uno until the week before Penn National. I cannot thank the Turners enough.

Sidelines: How does it feel to be one of the youngest riders ever to win this final?

LK: It feels amazing. I can't even begin to explain it or put it into words.

Sidelines: What other wins do you consider highlights?

LK: This is only my second year in the equitation, but some other Big Eq wins include the ASPCA Maclay win this year at Devon and a tie in the Equitation Championship there.

Sidelines: What horses and ponies do you own?

LK: I own Ingénue, a small pony, and High Cotton, a large pony, and they are two of my favorite ponies. I also own a Large Junior Hunter named Madison and another named C Coast Z; Valedictorian, a Large Junior Hunter/Eq horse and Veronieque, a Junior Jumper.

Sidelines: What are your riding goals?

LK: My goals are to win more finals and to eventually go to the Olympics.

Sidelines: What do you do in your spare time?

LK: I have very little spare time, but with the time I do have I like hanging out with friends and doing things that a normal kid would do.



**ILLUSTRATED
PROPERTIES**

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SADDLE TRAIL



4BR/4BA, huge kitchen, 42" cabs, granite counters & cook top island. Formal living room w/coral stone wall & fireplace. Marble floors, plantation shutters & custom molding. Paver deck with luxurious pool. 5 stall barn with groom's apt plus sand arena and paddocks on great 4.46 acre double lot! Two stalls have run-outs to paddocks. **\$2,990,000.**

PADDOCK PARK 2



2-story, 5BR/4BA + loft on 2 acres. Designer kitchen, 2 master suites (1 up & 1 dn), blt-in ctr in fam rm, designer touches thru-out, summer kitchen & pool on paver deck. 8 stall barn with groom's apt. and 4 paddocks on the bridle path. **Reduced to \$2,150,000.**

SADDLE TRAIL



5BR/3.5BA. Kitchen-Aid stainless steel appl. & granite counters. Fireplace, marble & bamboo floors, Cov'd patio, pool & spa. 8 stall barn. 2BR/1BA grm's apt. wash racks, fly spray, feed, hay, A/C tack, padded stalls & aisle, roll-down doors & shutters. New riding ring & irrigation, 4 paddocks, 50 amp RV hook-up. **Reduced to \$1,999,000!**

BREAKERS WEST



4BR/4BA, gourmet kitchen with island, stainless steel appl. & granite counters. Formal living & dining rooms. Coffered ceilings, crown molding & polished marble & hardwood floors. Study w/custom blt-ins. Gorgeous master suite & marble master bath. Cov'd patio, summer kitchen and heated pool/spa. Golf Course Views. Gated Comm. **\$1,699,000.**

PADDOCK PARK 2



4BR/3BA plus den with blt-ins. Volume ceilings with high-hat lighting, marble floors on diagonal & central vac. Formal living room with wet bar. Cov'd patio, freeform pool & rock waterfall. 4 stall CBS barn with tack & feed, wash rack, fly sys & water at stalls plus 2 frame stalls and 3 paddocks on 2.15 acre canal lot. **\$1,300,000.**

PADDOCK PARK 2



2-story, 6BR/4BA, kitchen with 42" wood cabs, granite counters. Kitchen-Aid stainless steel appl. & 6-burner gas cook top. Marble floors 1st floor, solid oak floors 2nd floor. Plantation shutters, crown molding, central vac, sun block coated windows. Cov'd, scr'd patio w/hot tub. 3 stall barn and 2 paddocks. **Reduced to \$999,000!**

PADDOCK PARK 2



6BR/3BA (includes 2BR/1BA apartment w/kitchen & family room) on 2.35 acres. Huge open great room with brick fireplace. Game room w/full wet bar. Cov'd/scr'd patio, pool & spa. 2 stall barn, feed/tack & 3 paddocks on the bridle path. **Reduced to \$759,000!**

DEER RUN



2-story, 4BR, 2.5BA, kitchen w/stainless steel appl. & granite counters. Formal living room w/fireplace and formal dining room. Den with blt-ins. Hardwood floors & crown molding thru-out. Cov'd, scr'd patio overlooks the pool. 5 stall barn, 1BR/1BA grms qtrs. 2 extra stalls w/paddocks. 7 total stalls. Walking ring, sand arena & viewing tower. **\$649,000.**



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New Listing

Two Swans Farm

Private 10 acre, 12 stall European-style courtyard stable with 3 grooming stalls & covered riding arena. Featuring 2Br/2Bth Owner's villa, groom's apt, wine room & café, vet room and more. Presented for the discriminating buyer who wants the best of everything. Value priced at \$5.8 Mil



Reduced

Palm Beach Point

10.5 acres, 4 Br / 4 Ba pool home & 3-car garage. Two 2 Br / 1 Ba guest houses. New 12-stall barn, oversized riding arena & grass turnout paddocks. \$6.7 Mil.



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A Few Minutes With Vivian Yowan

By Jan Westmark

Junior rider Vivian Yowan fell in love with horses when she began riding as a tiny child at Fairfield County Hunt Club in Connecticut. This year at the sage old age of 13, Vivian set out for the Washington International Horse Show and accomplished what young riders all over the country dream of when she won the WIHS Pony Equitation Finals on her pony, Rockette.

Her trainer, Jenny Martin-Rudaz of Fairfield County Hunt Club, was ecstatic for her young pupil. "I am very proud to be Vivian's trainer. She has always been an amazing listener and she has great horse sense. You tell her something once and she just gets it," Jenny says. "Vivian also has a tremendous natural feel for the animals and she gets along with all of them. I think her biggest accomplishment has to be her win in the WIHS Pony Equitation Finals. She rode with a lot of confidence and focus."

Vivian was equally thrilled with her WIHS win on Rockette, a pony she also piloted to the Reserve Championship in the Large Green Pony Hunters at Pony Finals in 2010. "If I had to pick which was my favorite win, WISH or Pony Finals, I would have to say it was a tie," Vivian says.

Sidelines: How did it feel when you rode into the ring for the WIHS Pony Equitation Finals?

VY: As I walked into the ring, I was not thinking about winning but simply putting down the best trip that I could. I knew that if I relaxed, Rockette would relax too. I remember coming to the last fence, seeing the distance and knowing that I put down a good trip. I came into the flat in second place and I knew that I had a chance to move into first if I did everything Jenny had taught me. When they called me as the winner, I was so happy. I learned that hard work and true dedication really pays off.

Sidelines: The WIHS Pony Equitation Finals was your last time to show Rockette. What was your favorite thing about her?



Vivian and Rockette winning the WIHS Pony Equitation Finals

Photo by Diana De Rosa



Vivian and Rockette during the award ceremony for the Washington International Horse Show Pony Equitation Finals.

Photo by Diana De Rosa

VY: My favorite thing about her was she was not very hard to prepare. She never spooked at anything and always jumped the jumps. She was actually better when the jumps were spookier because it made her jump better.

Sidelines: What horses and ponies will you be showing now?

VY: I will show a pony named Casey, whose real name is Best Case Scenario, in the Large Pony Hunters and Ezra, whose real name is Enjoy, in the Large Junior Hunters.

Sidelines: What do you like about training with Jenny?

VY: Jenny has worked so hard to make me the best rider I can be. She has always picked out the perfect ponies and they have suited me so well. Now she has picked out a horse for me. Jenny is very serious when she needs to be. When I make a mistake she calmly tells me what I did wrong. I would not be where I am today without all of her help and dedication to my riding. I hope that one day I will be just as good as she is.

Sidelines: How did you start your riding career?

VY: When I was 3 years old my dad had a jumper who lived at the barn across the street from my house. Everyday I watched him from our front window and when he was done riding I would cross the street. He would put me on his horse with him and we would walk around the trails. When I was almost four, I started taking lessons. When I turned five I started riding with Jenny at Fairfield and I have been there ever since.

Sidelines: What are your riding goals now?

VY: My goals are to do well in Florida this winter and to qualify Casey for the Devon Horse Show.

Sidelines: What do you think you will be doing 10 years from now?

VY: After my junior career, I want to ride in college and be on an equestrian team. I would love to follow in my trainer's footsteps and be just as amazing at training and riding as she is.

Sidelines: What do you like best about being a horse kid?

VY: It's not only riding my ponies that I enjoy, but I also enjoy working with them on the ground. I love making them feel special after a long day of showing or a hard lesson. All of my ponies and horses have worked so hard to make me the best rider I can be and I am so thankful for all of them.

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A Few Minutes with Eirin and Lene Bruheim

By Rebecca Walton

Eighteen-year-old Eirin and 16-year-old Lene Bruheim ride for their family's Nordic Lights Farm, a 70-acre establishment located in Tomball, Texas. Both girls have worked their way up through the ranks and are currently competing at the top levels in the hunter and jumper divisions aboard their incredible string of horses. Eirin has competed World Cup Qualifying classes and was the sole U.S. representative for show jumping at the inaugural Youth Olympic Games in Singapore. Lene is currently focusing on the low junior jumpers and the junior hunters after leading the country in the NAL Children's Jumper standings in 2010.

Sidelines: What originally drew you to riding and why do you enjoy it so much?

Eirin: Ever since I was little I wanted to ride. Unfortunately for my parents, it wasn't just a phase all girls go through, I ended up falling in love with the sport and can't imagine my life without it. I like riding because it's a positive outlet for stress and the results correspond to the work you put in with the horses and courses. I also remember being in awe of the show jumpers who jumped so high.

Lene: My sister was already riding when I first started. I was terrified of horses for the first year she rode; but then one day I just told my mother I wanted to try to ride one, so we gave it a try. I enjoy the challenge of riding and just being with the horses.

Sidelines: How do you prepare and train for different competitions?

Eirin: Usually the week before competition we start by doing lots of cavaletti work and gymnastics to get my horses thinking faster again. We do small courses and work a lot on manners on the flat. However, if we're going to a long circuit or Young Riders we like to work on the horses' endurance starting about four or five weeks out so they won't fade as the competition progresses. During this time I like to work my horses on our hilly track and for a long time on the flat. Fortunately my horses love to work and stay very fit during the year.

Lene: I do a lot of flat work usually, some poles, and a few courses and gymnastics in between horse shows

Sidelines: Can you tell us about your competition schedule and how you balance school and riding?

Eirin: It used to be very hard to balance traditional school and riding due to the sheer amount of absences I would accrue over the show season. This ultimately led to our decision to transfer to an online high school, so we could travel all over and I could still keep up with school during my down time, whether it was day or night. I graduated this spring and took a year off to finish up my last junior year. Next year I'll go to Southern Methodist University, and I intend to keep riding during the weekends, and showing.

Lene: We show usually at least twice a month. I go to an online school, so it really doesn't interfere with my riding schedule at all. I do my schoolwork in the morning, and then I'm free for the rest of the day to ride. If we're going



Lene Bruheim and NLF Valhall

Photo by Shawn McMillen

to a show, I work ahead with my schoolwork so I can concentrate fully on the show.

Sidelines: What is it like riding with your sister?

Eirin: It's so much fun, she helps motivate me to win and consoles me when things don't go as planned. She is also very competitive so when she wins a class I feel obligated to also win! When we start riding in the same divisions it will be harder because we will both want to beat each other so badly!

Lene: I enjoy it a lot. She's a good role model and I try to follow in her footsteps as much as I can.

Sidelines: What are your goals and hopes for the future, both short term and long term?

Eirin: For the short term, I would like to step up to bigger grand prix classes and competitions. I have a great horse that I know can do it. I also want to keep riding in the amateur jumpers next year with my other mounts. My long-term goals are to get on some U.S. teams and hopefully go to the Olympics one day.

Lene: My short-term goal has always been to ride well and keep challenging myself at shows. For the long term, I would love to show in some FEI World Cup Qualifiers when I am ready.



Eirin Bruheim and NLF Trans Atlantic

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Juniorside

Back to Basics

By Lauren Corey

Back. To. Basics. One of my least favorite phrases because it entails a lot of hard work. Since it is the "off-season," my trainers are focusing on all those little details that slipped during show season. This means smaller jumps, no stirrup work, and of course LOTS of poles. I don't mind the no stirrup work so much, even though it is tiring and painful it will improve my riding. But the poles are definitely my least favorite part of back to basics month. My horse Petey gets much more excited going over a few poles than he does jumping 3'6". Sometimes when we are just cantering nicely along, I decide to head to a pole and see if I can maintain our nice rhythm. Once Petey catches sight of the pole, his ears go forward, his pace gets more energetic, and then he just soars over the little pole. Luckily I won't have to go over any poles at the shows...

Exciting Lessons

But during night lessons, poles are the least of my problems. Since it gets darker earlier and it's almost always cold, Petey, like most horses, tends to be a little fresh... When I ride early, we go around in his nice little frame and he stays calm and relaxed. But come 4:30, when it starts to get the tiniest bit dark, he turns into another horse. He thinks that it's time to go home, and I have to tell him that is not the case. He tries to stop listening to me and do his own thing, but that wouldn't work at all! Since it is back to basics month, we usually do pole courses with an crossrail or two. Petey and I start off at the trot, establishing an even pace, and then it is up to the canter. We head toward the first pole, and I fight to keep his paces slow and easy. After we pass the pole, it's on to the crossrail, usually at the trot. This is always interesting; Petey has a strong but controlled trot headed toward the jump and when he is about two strides away, he will either pick up the canter or try to jump it from there. And of course after the jump he will gallop away. My winter lessons are never dull!

A Different Experience

While it is back to basics at my main barn, the exact opposite is true of my IEA (Interscholastic Equestrian Association) riding time. The show season is in full swing and my team and I are working super hard to be competitive this year. We



Lauren Corey is a sophomore at Woodside Priory School in Portola Valley, California. She aspires to become a Big Eq rider, and to someday compete at the Grand Prix level

Photo by Craig Corey

already had two shows, so there are just three to go. I am close to acquiring enough points to qualify for Zones, and hopefully the next few shows on my IEA calendar will be successful. Since I made it to Nationals last year, I would love the opportunity to compete again. During my IEA lessons, we practice as if it were a show. We do a quick flat class to warm up the horses (and to make sure that they are all rideable) and then it is on to the jumping. We jump one course on the horse we came out on and then we switch horses to do our next course. By the end of the lesson, we usually end up riding all of the horses that came out into the arena.

It's a good thing Petey isn't an IEA horse. He might actually behave better since he would be wondering what was going on, but he would be super confused about showing in the winter. Part of Petey's problem is that he gets bored easily, but during a show there is so much going on. Between all the cameras flashing and programs flying, there's nothing like absolute chaos to test a horse's patience. If I were ever to bring Petey to an IEA show, he would behave for the first few people, but after that he would just get frustrated with having to do the same thing over and over and over again.

So while Petey stays at our main barn, having the two places to ride has definitely improved my riding. Petey and I have access to amazing trainers at our barn, but at the IEA lessons, I learn more about catch riding and how to figure out different horses. Fighting the winter chill on these dark days of back to basics month will make me a stronger rider when it is all over; I just have to remember that there is light at the end of the tunnel!

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For The Love of Horses

By Lauren R. Giannini

In an ideal world, everything is perfect – no poverty, war, terrorism, famine or disease; no child abuse, domestic violence or rape. In an ideal world there are no neglected, abused or abandoned animals. Unfortunately, this world exists only in our dreams. Unwanted horses, about 100,000 annually in the United States, include every discipline and sport, from backyards and pleasure riders to OTTBs to show hunters and jumpers past their prime to abandoned and/or starvation cases. They pose a huge problem: quite simply, there are not enough adoptive homes to take them all in, and many are in such bad shape they can't be saved. Too many horses are suffering more hardship and deprivation than horse lovers care to admit.

During the best of economies, it can be challenging to meet the maintenance expenses incurred by healthy equids, let alone those with ailments, soundness issues, and special needs. Animal welfare proponents are seriously concerned about the fate of unwanted horses. From a livestock perspective, they become a liability when age, injuries or illness prevent them from fulfilling their job descriptions.

The ideal scenario, of course is re-homing, but even that isn't always in a horse's best interests. Yes, the responsible choice is euthanasia if a pasture-potato situation can't be secured. But to an already-struggling horse owner, even calling in a vet to do the deed is expensive. Costs average from \$150 to \$350, more with a barn call fee. Then you have to do something with the remains. This is complicated by the high dose of concentrated barbiturate in the lethal injection, which can be administered only by a vet. The remains become an environmental hazard if buried or composted near a source of water and can't be fed safely to carnivores in zoos or in the wild.

The economy has resulted in dire consequences for middle class people who own the majority of the nearly 10 million equines in the US. More find themselves facing difficult decisions about whether to pay the rent or mortgage and feed the kids or the horses. It isn't ideal; it's the current reality. Horses are actually livestock, but now that they're more widely regarded as companion animals, the issue of unwanted horses gets agitated by emotion and anthropomorphized personal beliefs.

Frustrated & Overwhelmed

The recession's impact on many equine rescues and retirement farms has been devastating. Many haven't the money or the staff to take care of the animals.

Hilleary Bogley founded the Middleburg Humane Foundation, a farm-based, small and large animal shelter that specializes in the rescue and rehabilitation of abused, neglected and at-risk animals. MHF, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, relies on fundraisers and private donations which are 100% tax deductible. All funds go directly into the animals and programs, which include companion animal adoption, equine rescue, feral cat population control, and low cost spay & neuter assistance. Bogley, a licensed vet



In 2008 Twiggy was close to death from starvation. Shortly after her arrival at the shelter she went down and stayed down for three days. With the help of local vets (Piedmont Equine & Dr. Andrea Russell) she made it through that rough patch.

Photos Courtesy of Middleburg Humane Foundation

tech and court-appointed Humane Investigator for two Virginia counties with 23 years in animal welfare, leads a small core staff and many volunteers.

"We've gone from an average of 20 horses a year in our program for adoption to now we have 57 horses," says Bogley. "For the first 15 years of MHF we never had more than 20 horses, unless we had a large seizure, but we would usually be able to place them pretty quickly. Horse adoptions are way, way down: because of the economy, and the fact that there is no longer much value in horses, people can't afford to take on more horses. A lot of equine rescue facilities are closing, because they can't keep up and they're frustrated and overwhelmed – it's just never-ending."

Lifelong Commitment

Horses can live to be 25-40 years old – a big difference compared to the life span of dogs and cats: they live to be 15, give or take a few years. Even in the prime of their life, domesticated animals



Twiggy turned out to be one of the lucky ones. After that rough patch the light suddenly came back on in her eyes, she started eating, gaining weight and getting healthy. She now lives the life of a spoiled princess on a farm with one of MHF's wonderful volunteers.

Photo Courtesy of Middleburg Humane

can't fend for themselves. They depend on people, especially as they get older and develop ailments and special needs.

"First of all, be aware of your responsibilities in horse ownership before you take on a horse," advises Bogley. "Don't take on a horse if you can't make a lifelong commitment. I ask people: do you know where your first pony is? Most people have no idea. Ponies just get passed and passed and passed. In their golden years, when they need that care, they usually end up in a bad way..."

Bogley knows where her first pony is. Stormy was older when she started out with him, but he stayed in the family and eventually went back to her mother. He was euthanized when he was about 45.

Educating Breeders

"We can start by educating people. If you increase the quality and decrease the quantity of the horses you're breeding, everyone will benefit," states Bogley. "That's not going to happen overnight. They did a study many years ago and learned that it would take four years to see a higher quality, lower quantity. In the Thoroughbred, Arabian and Quarter Horse industries, people pay a lot of money to register a horse. It means nothing in terms of quality. You can register anything and it's just more filing of paperwork."

Savvy breeders slowed down on reproduction. They're still feeding their mares, but they aren't footing expenses for young stock that might not sell. Like real estate, it's a buyers' market out there.

Educating The Public About All The Options

"Another solution is to educate the public about the necessity of humane slaughter of horses in the US which we can regulate and which is necessary because of the severe overpopulation problem," says Bogley.

The AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association) are not pro-slaughter, per se, but on their website they state: *The AVMA opposes the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act (AHSPA) because it is, quite simply, a bad bill that ignores the real issue—what do we do with all of these unwanted horses? Eliminating an option for their disposition does nothing to solve the problem, it only adds to it.*

"Between Bo Derek and her good looks and low-cut blouses, her television ads, and the kids writing letters to senators and congressmen, everybody was misinformed," emphasizes Bogley.

"The animal rights people were going to take away that option [humane slaughter regulated and monitored within the US], but they had no plan B for what people could do with these horses. The general public also doesn't understand there is a huge overpopulation problem in horses, just like in cats and dogs, because there is no regulation of the breeding industry. Up until four years ago there was a market for horses – not only in riding horses or horses for sport, but also in horsemeat. Now, we've taken that market away, the value of horses has dropped [with the recession], and there is a dreadful overpopulation problem."

The animal rights people used videos and photos of the rare occurrences of mishandling in slaughterhouses to their advantage in a massive shock campaign to gain support to outlaw horse slaughter. The last three slaughter facilities to close [in 2007 President Bush signed the bill that outlawed horse slaughter in the US] – Illinois and two in Texas – used a penetrating captive bolt, one of three methods of euthanasia recommended by the AVMA. The other two are lethal barbiturate injection and gunshot.

"Over 98% were done humanely with the captive bolt – when you're slaughtering 300 horses or however many in a day, of course, you have occasionally a horse that doesn't quite fit into the squeeze chute and throws up its head and the cowboy doesn't catch him exactly where he's supposed to," explains Bogley. "Those are the videos that you see. HSUS, SPCA, all these big animal rights groups – they don't show you the hundreds of other horses that went through on their videos for six hours, they pull out that one when something went wrong. Something always goes wrong in everything in life, nothing is certain, nothing is guaranteed."

No Regulation

What is guaranteed now is that there are still 100,000 unwanted horses, far too many to be taken in by already over-stretched rescue outfits. The animal rights people crowed about their victory in reducing animal suffering by the US ban on horse slaughter; however, many experts in animal welfare disagree emphatically. The AVMA's substantial FAQ about unwanted horses and slaughter (see end of story for link) expresses their concern that following the closure of the American facilities, regulated by the US Dept of Agriculture, horses are suffering far worse fates by being trucked to slaughter in Mexico, where the USDA has no jurisdiction.

"The stabbing and severing of spines is what's happening in Mexico," says Bogley. "If it's not done exactly correct, it is very inhumane. There is no humane slaughter act in Mexico. We cannot regulate anything once the horses leave the US. They're mass-slaughtering ten times the number of horses they usually did, because of the horses coming in from the US. They did not have that number of horses before [the shutdown of US facilities]. They've got horses just flowing into Mexico."

Changing The Laws

"My thing was humane transport," explains Bogley. "About 20 years ago, a friend who's now an attorney in Kentucky and I took a year and we documented and videotaped all of the horrors of the transportation of horses for slaughter and we were able to introduce some new language into the federal transportation laws for horses."

Their work changed federal laws. No more double-decker transporters, and the visually impaired or blind horses had to be led by hand onto the truck and loaded separately. Good changes were being sought by animal welfare groups in the years leading up to the legislation being passed in 2007 to outlaw horse processing plants within the US, but the plight of these unwanted horses has taken severe turns for the worse.

Continued on page 76

Continued from page 75

Realistic Solutions

United Horsemen is a 501(c)(3) educational and charitable organization with a plan for humane and realistic solutions to the excess horse problem. Two parts of the mission embraced by these dedicated urban and rural horse-lovers is the rescue and rehabilitation of horses with potential for re-training and re-homing. The third element involves recycling: the blunt term is slaughter, but the goal is euthanasia or humane death by captive bolt or bullet at a local, US-regulated facility.

Part of the success of this rescue, rehabilitation and recycle project depends on Dr. Temple Grandin, who was asked to design the horse-handling chute for the proposed Wyoming facility. She is an animal behaviorist and professor of Animal Science at Colorado State University, author, and one of Time Magazine's Most Influential People of 2010.

Dr. Grandin, who is autistic with a special connection and empathy for animals, described the fate of horses shipped to Mexico where they are stabbed to sever their spines as her "worst nightmare and an example of well-intentioned but very bad unintended consequences. It's only going to get worse because there's no way to close that border. They just wave you through. I pulled some figures off the internet and something like 1200 horses a week are crossing the border from the US. The plant is under the European Union, which is getting very concerned about the drug residue problem."

In other words, if the EU shuts down or reduces production in that plant, then horses from the US will go into local livestock plants and 'neighborhood' butcher shops and that will be even worse for the horses, due to no regulation of Mexican abattoirs.

"It will be an unregulated mess," emphasized Dr. Grandin, "and nobody can go down there and inspect anything, because it's too dangerous."




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A Better Solution

The growing horrors in Mexico add more weight to why a change in US laws to allow a humane horse-processing facility in Wyoming would save many thousands of horses from suffering on the road to Mexico and the ultimate indignity of a merciless demise. The horses would benefit from the federal transport laws, the facility would be regulated and managed properly. Most of all, the animals would be handled with care. Moreover, the public eye would be watching to make sure that the horses were handled properly and that the humane code would be upheld to the best of everyone's ability.

"I have the design," says Dr. Grandin. "Once you have that in place, you want the horses to have quiet and careful handling outside, no distractions, and you have to have management that wants to handle animals right. If you don't have management dedicated to doing things right, you're going to have bad stuff going on."

United Horsemen are committed to alleviating as much suffering as possible if horses must be slaughtered, which is why they contacted Dr. Grandin. Her many years of substantial experience as an animal behaviorist has led her to pioneer humane handling and appropriate facilities for livestock to be slaughtered here in the US and around the world. Animal rights organizations don't agree, and the general public seem to be turning a very blind eye toward the transport of horses to Mexico – out of sight, out of mind.

Real Alternative

"If people tell me slaughter is terrible, I tell them give me all your ideas for alternatives," says Dr. Grandin. "I've had people tell me what the horse rescue places are doing, some people want to make big sanctuaries. I say, 'Fine – do it.' Those rescue places take money. If you have a big sanctuary, they get filled up and if you exceed the capacity of the land you've got a real mess. I don't want to hear should this or should that. Let's talk about something that someone's actually going to do."

There's an old saying: if you aren't part of the solution, you're part of the problem. The great efforts by individuals and small organizations to rescue and rehabilitate neglected and abandoned animals simply aren't enough. The loss of US horse-processing plants resulted in a cruel blow to the horses themselves.

"I want to talk about doing. Not policy. Not ideology. What can we actually do?" asks Dr. Grandin. "When they contact me with their lovely hate emails, I say give me plans for alternatives that are real services. What service are you going to provide? They never reply."

We all love our horses. Nobody wants to see any animal suffer or starve or be relegated to cross the rainbow bridge at a slaughterhouse – anywhere. Yet, the realities faced by the growing numbers of unwanted horses demand that we consider all the options. For some horses, there is no escaping the abattoir. Given that fact, we might consider that our ultimate kindness, even if it's not the most preferable option, would be to monitor the work of a humanely run processing plant here in the US than to allow horses either to starve to death or to suffer that one-way ride to Mexico.

The fact is that many horses still face death somewhere, and that means we must do what we can to make sure it is as gentle and easy as possible. We all have a conscience. If emotion overrules common sense, however, we must be prepared to pay the consequences: living with the knowledge that we allowed doomed horses to cross the border where humane regulations simply do not exist.

www.united-horsemen.org/

www.avma.org/issues/animal_welfare/unwanted_horses_faq.asp

Needy Nags



Stokes is a 15.2h, 4 year old Thoroughbred gelding. He is very snazzy with his 4 white feet! Stokes is a friendly boy to work with on the ground. He has no vices and is also good to ride, although he is not for a timid rider. He is Maryland bred by Jazz Club and out of I Am Too. He is up to date on vaccinations and has a current coggins. This guy has raced 15 times and cracked his shin in his most recent race on 10/9. The prognosis for this injury is very good, he just needs the time to heal and then he will be ready to jump and play! He is ready for some exercise in the form of small turn out area, trotting under saddle or on a lunge line. X-rays are available. Stokes is located at Laurel Park in Laurel, Maryland. There is no adoption fee as a condition for placement but a minimum donation of at least \$150.00 will help us continue in our work placing these wonderful horses. For more information, go to www.LeightonFarm.com or call Kim at (301) 579-6898. If you get a horse through this site, please make a donation to Thoroughbred Placement and Rescue, Inc. a 501(c)(3) non-profit, by going to www.goodhorse.org.



Dr. Krystal Key is a 16 year old, 15.2 h, registered (Arabian Horse Association #IA314614) Arabian/Saddlebred cross. Krystal is a former show horse from Nebraska. She is well trained but can be nervous under saddle. Krystal has had a number of owners in her lifetime and needs a forever home. Her most recent owner accepted responsibility for her care after Krystal's previous owner found herself in financial duress. When time constraints prevented her new owner from being able to work with her sufficiently, she began looking for a new home for her. The owner chose Rainbow Meadows to be her new guardians and assist with selecting her "forever home." Krystal is located in Kansas; but can travel to the right home. For more information, contact Karen Everhart at (620) 725-3402 or karen.everhart@rainbowmeadowsranch.com, or go to www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com. Rainbow Meadows does not charge adoption fees, but adopters are requested to consider a free will donation so that we can continue to help more horses.

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Two PMU Mares Hear a Different Whisper



By Erin Gilmore

Toci and Koko have elephant names.

They stare at the world from under heavy eyelids and move with deliberate steps, necks swinging as they brush the ground with their big noses. Castoffs of the Premarin drug industry, the sad-eyed horses spent their lives as cogs in the machine that produces a hormone-replacement drug for women.

The circumstances of their rescue were all too common: two more neglected horses saved at auction, in March 2009 by an animal rescue group. A naïve first-time horse owner saw their photo on the Internet and had them shipped, sight unseen, to her home in Kentfield CA, where they were predictably tagged as too dangerous to be of any good use.

But that was before the huge Shires met Robin Gates of Santa Rosa, CA. With her wide smile and thinly creased eyes, Robin could make friends with anyone from a stranger on the street to, well, an angry elephant. "Horse trainer" is a thin definition for what she does; "horse whisperer" doesn't begin to do her justice.

No Quick Fixes

A former high performance dressage rider who competed and trained through Prix St. George and Grand Prix, Robin says she "really" learned how to train horses from a little old lady in San Diego who lived with a herd of wild horses during her childhood. If that sounds way off the beaten path, it is, but 68-year-old Carolyn Resnick has a growing following in the horse world.

Carolyn developed her training methods directly from the way horses interact with each other in the wild, and for anyone who knows horse gentling, her training is raw; no ropes, small pens or quick fixes are involved. Robin has worked with her on and off for more than 20 years, learning her method and adding her own twist.

But gentling a couple of terrified, 2,500-pound animals is no easy feat.

Both horses still sport ugly brands on their hindquarters and old rope burns on their legs. Toci had the dangerous habit of striking out with her front legs if someone came too close, and Koko would panic and run if she felt confined. Robin had to start slow; for weeks she simply sat near the horses while they ate.



The Freedom to Leave

Robin is fluent in horse in the way that Jane Goodall is fluent in gorilla. She knows that any animal would choose freedom over confinement, and like Goodall interacting with gorillas in the jungle, Robin prefers to work with horses in the largest possible space. All training time was spent in open pastureland that provided more than enough room for the two draft horses to run or walk away if they wanted to. But after a lifetime of being forced and contained, the freedom to leave was an incredible new concept for Koko and Toci.

In the wild, herd interactions create a cohesive community between horses. All horses communicate with each other by seeking order in their herd ranking through constant interaction. In this way they choose their herd leader, and if they view the behavior of a herd member as unfair, they can simply leave that horse behind.

But how did that theory apply to Toci and Koko? A lifetime of containment had erased the instincts of their own language. Once they were given the choice to leave, Robin found that they couldn't tolerate any pressure at all. In the beginning, a slight move from her was enough to get them bolting for the edge of the pasture, where they would stand together, shaking.

"What we're not doing with horses is giving a rip about cohesion and community," says Robin. "We're focused on telling the horse how to do it our way by using pressure until the horse gives in. Too



Toci (left) and Koko have learned to trust people

many horses have been subjected to that dominant model, where they've been pressured until they give up."

Toci and Koko were truly afraid of and (as Robin puts it) enraged at humans. They didn't want to have anything to do with people, but as Robin started out with very small movements, she taught them that if they reached out to her a little, they would be rewarded. Gradually, the mares let her lay a hand on their side. A month later she was able to pick up Koko's hoof and run a brush over Toci's face. Today, Robin and the mares' owner Carolyn Ellis can ride the mares at liberty.

Offered Leadership

"I didn't pursue leadership with Toki and Koko when they were saying 'no' to me," she explains. "When I knew I could get a 'yes', I offered leadership. I never went into their resistance."

People have controlled horses with ropes in contained spaces for so long that working completely without them is considered a novelty. Even "natural horsemen" who travel the clinic circuit begin their work with rope halters and guiding lines, and promote 30-minute methods of horse training with systems of pressure and release.

"But too much pressure erases the horse's instincts," Robin argues. "What I love about Carolyn's work is that we're not looking to erase the horse's instincts. Every horse wants to go along with what you want and establish a bond. But by giving them a choice I'm allowing them to tap into their deepest instincts."

Robin knew that working at liberty with Toci and Koko would produce better long-term results. The kind of leadership she asked of the horses made them want to come back once they'd left. Being asked—and not told—for performance equaled empowerment. In Toci and Koko's case, 'performance' simply meant looking at Robin, or walking one step towards her. Today, doing things like lowering their head when asked,

standing quietly during grooming, and even being vaccinated at liberty is as easy as swatting a fly.

On her website Robin likes to talk about "dancing in the bond" with a horse. It might be heavy in new age tones, but it's an accurate description of the connection that Robin has with Toci and Koko. Now, they crave her presence so much that Robin doesn't even peek sideways from under her hat when she walks at liberty with one of the jumbo-sized horses. She already knows they're right by her side.



In the two years since Carolyn Ellis adopted Toci and Koko sight unseen from a rescue website, she's gone from a naive first time owner to a horsewoman who works with the Shires at liberty



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Sometimes, Horses Get Lucky

By Danika Rice

It's been said that every horse, at least once in a lifetime, deserves to be loved by a little girl. For six year old Thoroughbred Rachel's Dancer, his little girl of a lifetime has become his soul mate. Written off at the track because of arthritis in his knees (Dr. Paul Wolleman states that on a scale of 1-10, his knees are an 11), Rachel stared down a road of uncertainty at a very early age.

The track was all he had ever known. Kept with the same owners his entire life and bred to run, he arrived in Wellington, Florida shy, unsocial and terrified of horses, people and animals that offered to enrich his new life beyond the confines of the track he knew. Placed in the Florida Thoroughbred Retirement and Adoptive Care program, director Sonia Stratemann worked to find an adoptive home to suit Rachel's fragile personality. Little did she know it would soon be her own.

Someone to Love Him

Sonia's 13-year-old daughter Alexandra groomed the malnourished gelding for hours each day, telling him about her days and feeding him oatmeal cookies to help him regain strength. These daily sessions seemed to improve the timid gelding's temperament, but a bigger change seemed to be forming in Alexandra herself. Surrounded by horses all her life, Alexandra grieved for years about the loss of her previous horse Penelope, and refused to ride any others. Refused for four years, that is, until Rachel.

The unspoken bond that formed between the reserved gelding and his newfound teenager resulted in each of their confidences growing, allowing Alexandra the freedom to enjoy the riding ring once again with her new teammate and friend.

And a Little Buddy

Although still somewhat anti-social, Rachel has found peace in the Stratemann home by way of his bond with Alexandra, as well as an appreciation for some other four-legged companions. A herd of sheep rescued by Sonia provided unlikely camaraderie for Rachel at feeding time, as he does not like confrontation with the other horses. The herd is now down to one sheep that has taken a shine to the gelding, sharing meals and providing plenty of entertainment as they romp around the farm together.

"He's grown so much," Sonia says. "Now, if he's out in the yard and we're all standing in a circle out there, he'll get brave enough to come say hi to everyone in the circle. But always, after his greeting, he walks over and puts his head on Alexandra. He knows who his kid is."

From an anti-social gelding with a fearful companion, Rachel and Alexandra have blossomed into an incredible team, one that can be seen everyday in the riding arena working to improve their relationship and abilities together. They are, as Sonia states, "the mascot" for everything the Florida TRAC program hopes to accomplish with their adoptions and rehabilitation of Thoroughbred horses who can no longer run.

Founded in September of 2010, the program is currently housing 30 horses looking for their forever homes. "It can't be just me in this," Sonia states. "To make something like this successful, we need a whole army behind us, working to spread the word that these are good horses that deserve another chance, another shot at living a life they don't know exists yet." The program offers everything from sound two year old horses that were not fast enough to stay on the track to retired eight year olds who have limitations in their knees due to a life of running. Their mission is to re-create as many stories like Alexandra and Rachel's as they can. A child and a horse, unspeakably and inexplicably bonded by something more than just mutual admiration. Bonded with love and understanding, compassion and connection with who they both are working to become with their second chance, forever together.



When Rachel's Dancer arrived from the track, he was thin as a rail, unsocialized and definitely not trusting



Alexandra Stratemann found a horse she could love, and bond with



Goat or sheep? Doesn't matter to Rachel's Dancer – he's happy to share lunch with his little buddy



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Thoroughbred Stallion Frisky Spider in Search of a New Career



By Jan Westmark

Mark Lapidus is the first one to admit that he has a soft spot for his racehorse Frisky Spider, a 2001 multi stakes stallion. While Mark calls it a “weakness,” horse lovers everywhere will call it something far different – a man who cares about his horse and is determined to do the right thing.

Mark claimed him in a race at Gulfstream in 2007, and then took him to Maryland. “I raced him only once,” Mark said. “He won a race at Delaware, and won handily by eight lengths. He ran so smoothly and effortlessly that he appeared to be running slow, but when you looked at the stop watch you couldn’t believe how fast he ran.”

Following that race, Frisky Spider fractured his sesamoid, which ultimately ended his racing career. While many racehorses face a tragic future when injured, Mark stood by his horse and decided to stall rest Frisky Spider in hopes that he would heal and go on to have another career. “He is very intelligent and has a great disposition,” Mark said. “I want him to find a great home in which he can be happy.”

Time to Heal

Frisky Spider spent two years enjoying being turned out, and in the summer of 2010 Mark sent him to Kimberly Clark at Leighton Farm in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Kimberly’s passion for retraining racehorses and helping them find new careers is well known. Mark knew that Frisky Spider would be in good hands with Kimberly and that she would guide the stallion as he looked for a new home and a new career.



Frisky Spider is quite the handsome fellow

Photos by Bernadette Kilce

“I got on Frisky Spider the day after he arrived and he was wonderful to ride, especially when you consider that he hadn’t been ridden since leaving the track two years before,” Kimberly said. “Frisky Spider is an amazing mover. Elizabeth Madlener, my grand prix dressage coach, feels he displays international level movement. Although he is all boy, he is a complete gentleman to work with on the ground. I’ve often invited Mark to come out to the farm and see Frisky but he has declined because he says he’ll fall further in love with him and never let him go. This is probably true because it’s easy to fall in love with Frisky.”

Wonderful Prospect

Kimberly believes Frisky Spider will make a wonderful sport horse stallion, thanks to his looks, movement and temperament. Her goal is to match the former racehorse with the right rider and help the stallion blossom. “I wish all owners were as loyal to their horses as Mark is,” Kimberly said, adding that Leighton Farm

will only charge a \$150 adoption fee for the stallion.

At this point Frisky Spider’s story is unfinished, but everyone involved with him hopes that he will get the second chance he deserves. With any luck, this time next year we will be reading about a successful sport horse stallion who has not only achieved success in his new career, but is also happy and very well loved. After all, it only takes a quick look at Frisky Spider’s handsome face to develop a soft spot for the stallion.

For more information on Frisky Spider, contact Kimberly Clark at 301-579-6898 or visit her website at www.leightonfarm.com.

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Five Questions for Phillip Dutton

By Lauren R. Giannini

Ranked first overall on the US Eventing Association's leaderboard, Olympic medalist Phillip Dutton can be described as the "iron horseman" of the equestrian triathlon, aka three-day eventing. Born in New South Wales in 1963, Phillip moved to the US in 1991 to prepare for the '96 Atlanta Olympics where he competed on the Australian gold-medal team. Phillip is a founding member of Professional Riders Organization (2009) and its president since last June

Married for 13 years, Phillip and Evie Boyd make their home at their True Prospect Farm (West Grove, PA) with their children: Lee Lee, 16, an up-and-coming young event rider, and the twins, Mary and Olivia, 9. Phillip's training business includes several top-level riders on the short list and numerous adult amateurs: they all swear by him. Phillip, named the Developing Rider Coach of 2009, has his sights set on "being part of a gold medal-winning US team." He wouldn't mind an individual gold either. He's also driven to get the US back up to the top of international eventing.

Sidelines: Who are your favorite all-time special horses?

PD: A horse that changed my life was True Blue Girdwood, a bay horse that I brought to the US. He got me to the (Atlanta) Olympics and he was not easy to ride, but he was a really good reliable horse. He taught me how to ride and also got me to a level where I had a chance of becoming an international rider. Without that horse I probably wouldn't

be where I am today. Any horse that gets you to a four-star is a very special animal. I appreciate every one of them. [True Blue Girdwood enjoyed his retirement at home on the Dutton farm in Pennsylvania until he passed away two years ago at the age of 25.]

Sidelines: Did True Blue begin your rider/owner relationship with Annie Jones?

PD: Yes, Annie helped me to support him and helped with some expenses – that was a big help at the time to support the horse at the level where I wanted to compete him. She used to compete herself, and her family has a lot of involvement in horse sports and professional racing. I think she got into eventing because she could be hands on and do some of the training herself. It's been a great friendship. We've kind of been through it all together. It's great when the horses do really well, but she has a good attitude even when the horses get injured. She enjoys the whole process. Annie comes to ride – does a lot of the jogging and gets to know the horses better. She enjoys being involved and helping them get to the big events.

Sidelines: Which lower level horses have you feeling optimistic?

PD: Annie owns a Thoroughbred horse that's going intermediate in 2011 called Young Man. Sarah Hughes has two horses she bought in Germany: Alcatraz and Zeizos. Nina Gardner has a six-year-old she bred called Celtic Heritage. They're all potential 4-star horses that I'm developing. I just got back from Ireland, bought two horses there – one for Nina Gardner and Bruce (Davidson) bought one. I have a horse going to three-star this year, Fern Hill Eagle – he looks like a winner.

Sidelines: What advice do you have for riders with stars in their eyes?

PD: I think you have to become an all-around rider and horseman. I see people rush to get out on their own too quickly – it doesn't take much to have a blog or website and I think that sometimes people feel they have enough knowledge to do it on their own. It's better to be surrounded by people with more experience than you and keep learning and wait until you really know what you're doing.

Sidelines: What keeps you hungry and motivated?

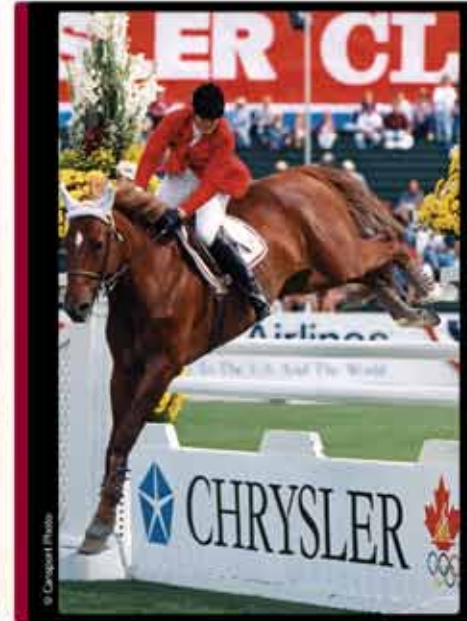
PD: This has always been my goal, my dream. I was a farmer in Australia, and I still pinch myself sometimes when I think of what I'm doing. I'm not going to give it up too easily. I like it too well and I like this lifestyle. I want to show the owners that they were right selecting me to ride their horses. I like to win as well. I want to keep it going as long as I can.

*Phillip Dutton, who has placed second at Rolex Kentucky five times since 1993, won the four-star in 2008 on his fourth collaboration with Connaught and finished 10th overall with Woodburn in their CCI**** debut*



Photo by Lauren R. Giannini

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E V E N T I N G

Sharon White: Riding The Highs & Lows With A Smile

By Lauren R. Giannini

Impossible to miss on the cross-country in bright orange, Sharon White, of Summit Point, WV, continues to be one of the most upbeat and cheerful humans on the face of the earth. Nothing seems to dampen her spirits: she can and will find several reasons for joy when rain pours on her parade. She's incredibly optimistic about life in general, even after last year's extremely high highs and low lows.

"That pretty much sums it up," admits Sharon, laughing. "But I feel like I had a great year. I fulfilled the goal of going and competing in England and that was just amazing. I feel like I learned so much."

She spent six weeks with Rafferty's Rules (aka Reggie) at the training yard of Angela and Michael Tucker to prepare for the Blenheim International CCI***. Her enthusiasm for the experience leaves no doubt whatsoever that it was well worth the expense.

The words tumble out of her: "It was phenomenal, the sport is amazing there – there are so many good horses, so many great riders, and Blenheim is such a great event. I feel like we have all that here, we just don't have the depth like over there. You can go watch 200 horses in an Advanced division and there's not one that you don't want to watch. That was really cool."

But Then, The Lows

Then she describes what happened after she returned to Last Frontier Farm (barn colors are bright orange and blue) and her state-side eventing and teaching life.

"Life is funny sometimes, because I really came back feeling completely inspired and I didn't know that I needed to be inspired," explains Sharon. "It was just really cool over there. Then – in the odd way that things work – the first three-day I go to when I get home, my horse flips over on me and breaks my pelvis. What are you going to do?"

She recalls how well Russian Roulette was doing in his first CCI** at Fair Hill International last October (Elkton, MD.) They stood third after dressage, and she figured she could pull up if the championship two-star cross-country proved too much.

"But he was being really super and it was just a freak thing that happened, that's all," says Sharon. "He didn't see the jump. He literally ran into it and flipped over. I never



Sharon White with her beau Henrik Wranaker (SWE) and Theodore
Photos by Lauren R Giannini



The King's Spirit and Sharon White, captain of the second-placed Orange Crush Team when Morven Park hosted DerbyCross in 2008, shortly after the duo won the inaugural three-star at Bromont (CAN)

left the saddle. I'm not at all put off by it. I can't wait to start riding again."

Sharon isn't off her rocker. She's merely sharing a few of the facts of life for a full-time professional upper level eventer whose mission is partnership with a half-ton or so of fit equine athlete.

UK Inspiration

"I love what I do, period. I love riding horses; I love watching horses. I wouldn't want to do anything else," admits Sharon. "To go over to England, when I already felt inspired, but to feel even more inspired by the quality, the level and the depth of horsemanship and riding, it was just cool. I was thinking, gosh, we could turn Morven Park (Leesburg, VA) into something really special.

"You know, just wanting our sport here in the States to be as well thought of as it is in England," Sharon adds. "It's a lifestyle over there. Everybody's got a horse, so it's part of history and life. I walked around Badminton while I was there and thought that the estate of Morven Park is equally as beautiful and the advanced cross-country is one of the best. It was cool to think of the possibilities of getting a group together and turning Morven Park into more of a Badminton event."

By the time you read this, Sharon will know if she can park her wheelchair and start walking. She's already working out with a personal trainer three days a week. She's champing at the bit to get back in the saddle and compete.

"I'd love to take Rafferty's Rules to do Rolex. I don't know if that's a possibility or not yet – I'll play that by ear," says Sharon. "He's qualified. It just depends on what my riding ability is. If for some reason I can't do Rolex, I'd like to take him to Burghley."

Follow Sharon and Team Orange at lastfrontierfarm.com

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Sidelights

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Tattini was established in 1860 in Italy and has since provided cutting-edge products for the everyday equestrian up through the professional rider.

Here at Just Cavallor, we feel that the men of the equestrian world are just as important as the women and have the right to dress fashionably and distinctively. For these reasons, Just Cavallor offers a varied selection of men's breeches, polos, jackets, and accessories. Selections available at Just Cavallor include the Tattini men's show breech of cotton, nylon, and spandex to provide a breech that doesn't sacrifice looks, comfort or durability for the sake of a superior show-ready fit. Men's breeches are also available in a cotton-spandex blend with increased elasticity for form-fitting fashion.

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Five Questions for Sibyl Dance

By Lauren R. Giannini

Sibyl Dance grew up in Potomac, Maryland and even though she didn't hunt as a child, she harks back to riding her pony cross-country. She got into eventing when she moved to Florida in 1980 and wanted to go on with it, but the nearest horse trials were four hours away. A pack of hounds, on the other hand, was only 20 minutes away. In 2006 Sibyl hunted hounds for the first time, and has carried the horn for two seasons now for Palm Beach Hounds, America's southernmost hunt. By trade she's a real estate appraiser, by avocation she's a huntsman, through and through.

Sidelines: How did you get into hunting?

SD: I went out hunting a couple times with Four Winds and got hooked immediately – I never missed a meet! I hunted one season before I started whipping in and it's been on and off since 1989, but I whipped in for about 16 seasons. I loved everything about hunting! The hounds – I was immediately drawn to them. I've always loved dogs. My grandfather and my uncle were joint-masters a gazillion years ago at Howard County. So hunting is in my family.

Sidelines: Who influenced you the most as a horseman?

SD: I've never really been a ring rider, but one person I worked with quite a bit is Nancy DeSisto, who just moved up to Aiken last summer. Nancy is a great horsewoman who does natural horsemanship. She can read a horse like no one I've ever seen. She knows exactly when to put pressure on and exactly when to take it off. I start all my hunt horses – young, old, newborn, whatever age – on the ground, doing the groundwork. I find it pays off immensely in the hunt field in terms of the horse's confidence. They've just got to trust you and go, especially a huntsman's horse. Nancy has been a great influence on my horse training skills.

Sidelines: Who influenced you the most in the hunt field?

SD: Robert Douglas, huntsman for South Creek Foxhounds. He has taught me the ropes as far as hunting the hounds in the field. He also hunts Florida and some areas are just like ours – a lot of public-owned, fairly wild territory. We have a couple nice big ranches we hunt, but mostly our local territories are wild. He has taught me to read the country – where the foxes and coyotes are most likely to be in the palmetto fields, hunting around the swamps, and tactics that help us to produce the runs.

Also, there's my overall hunting mentor, Cornelia Henderson. She's my go-to person for all sorts of questions, everything from stock ties to horses.

Sidelines: What did you learn from whipping in?

SD: Get to know the territory. Ours is tricky and can get really heavy in places, and you've got to know, if hounds went in this way, how to get around to the other side. By whipping in, you learn the shortcuts, where you can cross ditches, where you can't, where you can get through this heavy covert and where you can't. It takes years of whipping in to learn the territory.

There's also the hound work and which hound you can trust, knowing who to go with. There are three I trust the



Sibyl Dance and Lily

Photo by Robyn Monte

most. Two bitches of our breeding – Yiney (short for Your Royal Highness) and Yaz. Joyful's a super hound, probably the top bitch in our kennel, drafted to us from Genesee Valley Hunt by Marion Thorne [MFH/huntsman], who has been incredibly generous, sending a number of very nice Crossbred hounds to us: they have great minds and they're easy to train, eager to please and they have super drive. In fact, Yaz is bred to Angus, to get Genesee Valley in our lines.

Sidelines: Do you have an all-time favorite hunt horse?

SD: Lily. I started hunting her as a four-year-old and actually whipped in off her for a season. She's unbelievably brave, lovely and forward, confident, which goes back to that natural horsemanship which is how I started her. I put a year into ground work, trail riding and just bringing her along. Her first season, Lily was actually under consideration for hunt horse of the year. Even though she's a draft cross, she's pretty fast. She's super comfortable, a great jumper.

Sidelines: What was it like when you first carried the horn?

SD: I was whipping in and was told on Monday evening that I was hunting hounds on Saturday, opening meet. I didn't even have time to do a hound walk in that time. But we had three fabulous runs and everyone had a ball and I've never had so much fun hunting. I had to get a reeded horn: you just blow into it, it's like a kazoo. Later I learned to blow a regular hunting horn – the tone is so much more beautiful – there's no comparison. I went back to whipping in, and two seasons ago, I took over as the professional huntsman for Palm Beach Hounds and hunting took over my life. My husband Jed is the most tolerant man I know.



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Snickersville Hunt's hounds hot on the scent
Photo by Karen Myers



Starting young! Madeline Neal and Emily Kagey enjoy a day out with Rockbridge
Photo by Allison Schott

Mary Strasser and Hughie enjoyed Moore County Hounds – despite the unseasonably frigid weather
Photo courtesy Mary Strasser



Rockbridge Hunt's professional huntsman David Conner provides good sport. Rockbridge is located in Glasgow, Virginia
Photo by Allison Schott



Southern scenery: Jt. MFHs Barbara Phethean and Rick Michaels and Brad Johnson lead the way at South Creek
Photo by Jim Sykes



Chula Homa's huntsman Sue Skipper



Good lads! Huntsman Todd Kern congratulates his Snickersville hounds
Photo by Karen Myers



Turner and Chase handle a log with style hunting with Mississippi's only pack of foxhounds: Chula Homa.

Wild Turkey Farm



The 6 stall stallion barn is also outfitted with a full breeding shed, lab and office. Barb credits contractor Tom Buckingham, of Buckingham Resources, for sticking with her for what turned out to be a 10-year

project. The property was bare land when she purchased it in 2000, and everything, from this barn, to the pastures, to the roads, were carefully planned and built to her specifications

By Erin Gilmore

Fifteen years ago, Barbara Ellison was just a rider. But as the amateur/owner purchased one, two and then three warmblood stallions to compete with, breeding seemed a natural next step. So began Wild Turkey Farm, breeder of hunter/jumper sport horses. And in a relatively short time, Wild Turkey horses have made their mark. Two offspring of foundation stallion Liocalyon competed last fall in the show jumping at the World Equestrian Games, and Wild Turkey breeding stallions regularly clean up on the West Coast grand prix circuit.

2011 begins a new chapter for Wild Turkey Farm. The completion of a brand new breeding and training facility near Portland, Oregon is the realization of a dream for Barb. After raising her children and founding Wild Turkey Farm in Woodside, California, in the '90s, the Oregon native is moving her horses "home" this month, to a 200-acre farm in the Willamette Valley. Surrounded by neatly fenced fields, a quiet river and lush fir trees, the 22-stall training barn, 24-stall broodmare barn and 15-stall retirement barn house the past, present and future generations of Wild Turkey sport horses.

All photos by Barbara Ellison



Even though it was just bare land when Barb first set eyes on it, she was sure that the property was meant to be the home of Wild Turkey Farm. Today over a dozen pastures surround the farm structures



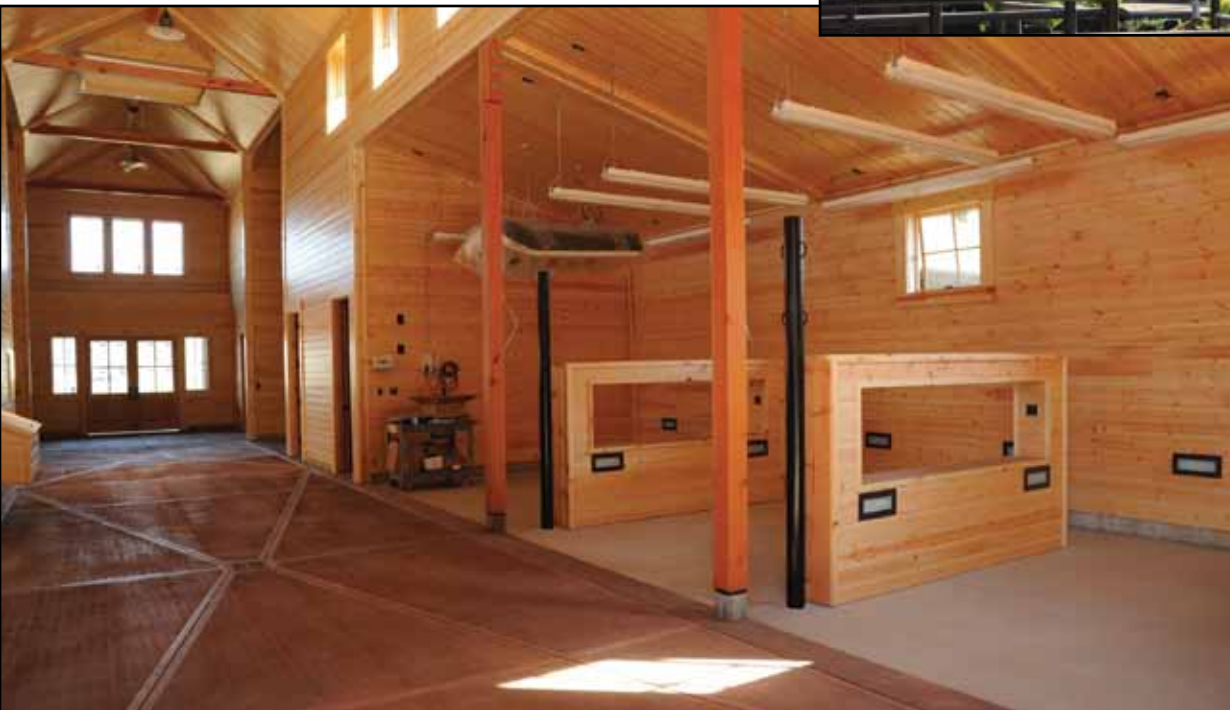
Wild Turkey Chevelle, a 2010 Chesapeake filly, is a keeper, says Barb. She already moves much like her dam, Wapity T, a hunter with beautiful movement. "I think she's going to be special," Barb adds. "Right now she's not for sale!"

During the rainy winter months, Wild Turkey Farm benefits from a 125' x 250' indoor arena, pictured at far right with viewing room attached. Next to it lies the training barn, and the stallion barn is beyond that. Barb deliberately put a road and pastures between the stallion barn and the broodmare barn, which lies out of sight on its own acreage



Forty acres on the south side of the property are reserved just for Wild Turkey's retirement horses.

A covered roof attaches the indoor arena to the training barn, and was designed to be high enough for a trailer to pull under for unloading. Paved rubber bricks make up the aisleway, and lighting was carefully installed to minimize shadows for ease of unloading at night

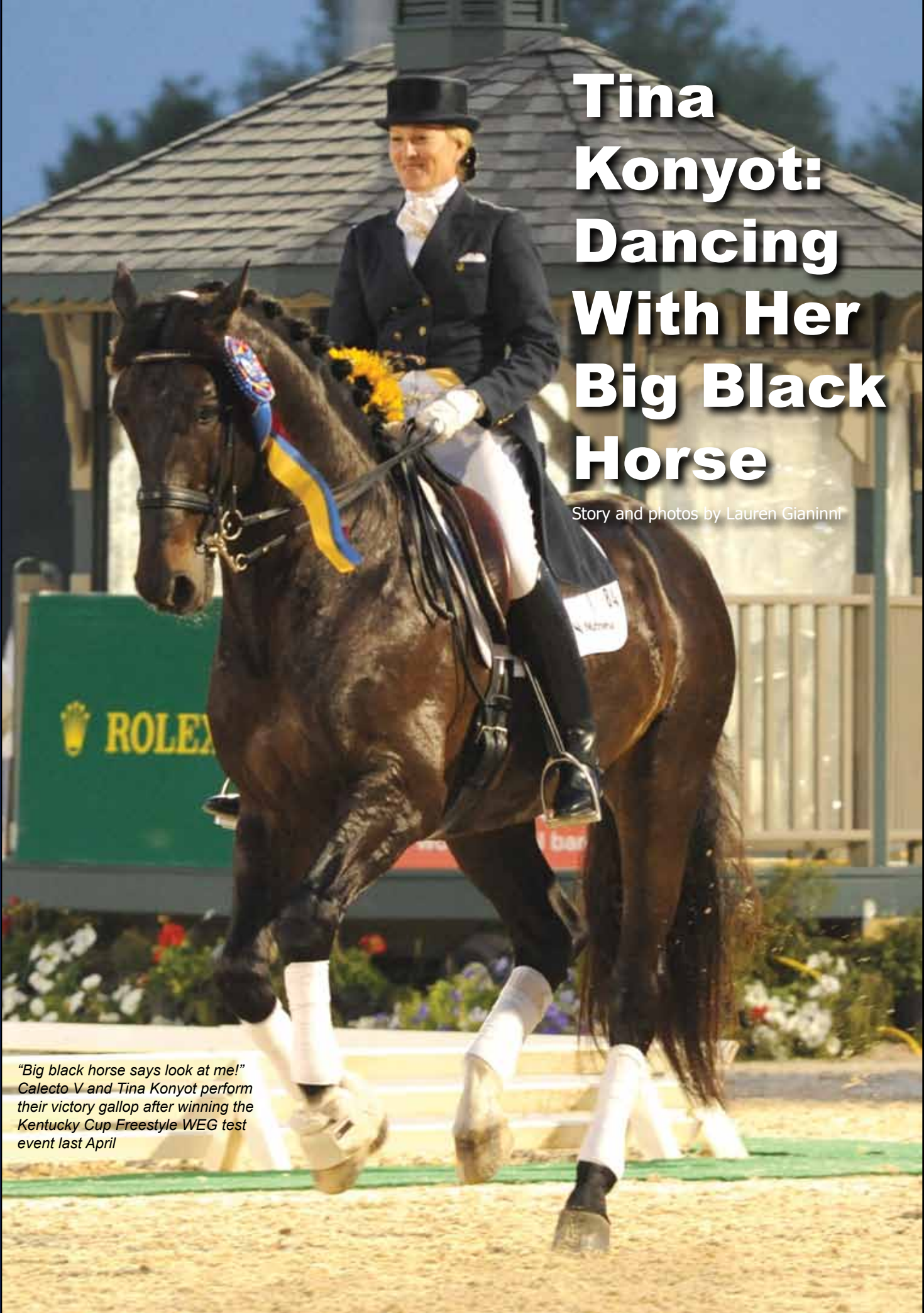


When this picture was taken in late summer, the finishing touches were being made on the interior of the training barn. The grooming area has a decidedly European feel, with solarium above one of the crossties and a wooden boot box on the left side of the barn aisle

Tina Konyot: Dancing With Her Big Black Horse

Story and photos by Lauren Gianinni

*"Big black horse says look at me!"
Calecto V and Tina Konyot perform
their victory gallop after winning the
Kentucky Cup Freestyle WEG test
event last April*



Calecto V and Tina Konyot packed the wow factor last April when they won both the Grand Prix and Freestyle during the Kentucky Cup WEG Test Events at the Kentucky Horse Park. The Dutch Warmblood stallion had been competing at the Grand Prix level for less than two years, and yet they dominated the Collecting Gaits Farm/USEF Festival of Champions, winning all four classes of the Selection Trial, thereby securing their berth on the U.S. Dressage team for the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games.

"My horse felt great for the Grand Prix at WEG," recalls Tina. "There were just mistakes – a miscommunication at the end when he stopped and then went into piaffe and a break in the first extension, but he felt like a million dollars and it was just unfortunate. I was personally unhappy with my Grand Prix Special: it just wasn't my day. I was happy and honored to be there, but we intend to get much better."

Honing and refining is part of Tina's legacy from her family's history as performers. Apples don't fall far from the tree, after all, and Tina is the product of five generations of old fashioned horsemen who trained the horses with whom they entertained audiences around the world.

A Circus Background

"I'm a little different than most competitors," admits Tina. "I don't have nerves – I think because of my upbringing and being on my own and training on my own. I'm always in a zone when I'm riding and I feel comfortable when I go into a competition ring. If anything, I'm a bit better when there are more people watching, more lights, more action. I was so looking forward to riding the Freestyle [at WEG] with a full house – that would have been my shining moment. For me it's a home place – from growing up with a performing circus background."

Tina's tests, especially the creative Freestyle set to music, tend to be electric: she feels totally at home on a horse in any situation, be it dressage court, open field or racetrack when she galloped Thoroughbreds. She holds nothing back in the quest to give her horse the best ride she possibly can.

Those privileged to be present for the Freestyle during the Kentucky Cup will testify that Tina and Calecto V (or "Smoochie") stole the evening with their upbeat choreography to "Black Horse and the Cherry Tree" by KT Tunstall with the words "big black stallion says look at me" dubbed in, "Let's Get Loud" (Jennifer Lopez) and "Crazy In Love" (Beyoncé.)

Looking Forward to London..?

"I have a good feeling for us the next two years in the run up to London," says Tina. "I think it will be a time for this animal to really shine. My plan is to keep us both sound and healthy. I've grown up with some bad accidents and I'm keeping that in mind as I keep developing this horse. He knows his job and he's going to learn new things about himself and look for perfection."

Tina snowbirded to Florida by the first of November. Her significant other, Roger Atfield, a Hall of Fame Thoroughbred

racehorse trainer based at Woodbine (CAN), had horses running in the Breeder's Cup in Kentucky and a horse running in Japan.

"During the winter I won't have a very difficult show schedule with Calecto," admits Tina. "My intention is to do a few of the bigger shows with preparation of going again to compete in Europe for five or six weeks. With a stallion, I'm not allowed to stay any longer than that. He's such a cool character that we can allow just a week for a big competition and he's just fine with it."

Last fall, Tina went straight from WEG to Canada with Calecto V, where he enjoyed a total change of scenery and routine. "In Canada, we don't have an arena, so I ride him in a big field where we do 'tree work' in and out of the trees. I ride him up and down the hills, walking, jogging," Tina describes. "He thought he won a gold medal, he was so proud of himself. I told him, 'Buddy, we didn't do so well,' but he was still squealing. At the end of three weeks, he was galloping up and down the hills."

They didn't go back into the arena until the beginning of December, after a month in Florida.

"I don't want to stay in the arena all the time. I don't want him to be sour – I want him to be happy," emphasizes Tina. "Sometimes people think the harder they work, the more they work, the better it becomes. But my father always told me: 'sometimes less is more.' That's the greatest advice I can pass on – that sometimes less is more."



Tina Konyot and Calecto V perform one of the Grand Prix test moves during the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games: "... my horse felt like a million dollars... I was happy and honored to be there, but we intend to get much better."

Catching up: He's baack! **Robert Dover**, by his own admission has 'retired' more times than Bob Hope. SO it came as no real surprise when Dressage Canada announced he's been rehired as Technical Coach/Advisor on an interim basis, for the period of January 1 — April 1, 2011. During his tenure and under his guidance, the Canadian Dressage Team achieved its highest placing at a world championships (7th at the 2010 World Equestrian Games), and earned a bronze medal in the Nations Cup at CDI05* Rotterdam.

But wait! There's more! If you've checked out Robert's blog, doversworld.com lately, you will have noticed he has his eye on a very tasty horse in his stable called Tacolando, and is making loud eager noises about (!) London. Robert says, in part "if you have that Olympic fire in your blood as well as strong American patriotism, I would ask that you consider my request to purchase this horse and allow me to help Steffen Peters and the others to strengthen our chances for a medal in London ... when I commit to making a Team, at least during the last couple of decades, I did it and most of the time, helped to bring home a medal. London will be a great Games and this horse can be a great."

Heather Blitz has relocated her training operation back to Wellington for the winter season. Heather's team of young horses that will be training in Florida are headed by her upcoming talent, the seven year old, Paragon, (Don Shufro- Pari Lord/Loran) who will begin his 2010 campaign at the Winter Equestrian Festival.

Catch SoCal's Best's "Behind the Scenes" special on champion dressage rider and trainer, Kristina Harrison, on video on demand. Kristina describes the rewards of riding, training and the joy she derives from training her daughter Rison to ride and compete in dressage. The story was videotaped on location at Angele Farms, within the Paddock Riding Club in Los Angeles, CA. Additional footage was recorded at the LA Equestrian Center during the 43rd CDS Championships, Sunday, October 10, 2010.



Kristina's story can be seen on SoCal's Best on Video on Demand. To view, customers can tune to channel 1 > Local > SoCal's Best > Behind the Scenes > Dressage-K. Harrison. The story was produced by Allan G. Buller, a Time Warner Cable's SoCal's Best producer in Santa Monica, California.



Horse of the Year! Ravel, owned by Akiko Yamazaki of Woodside, Ca and ridden by Steffen Peters was picked as the 2010 Adequan/USDF Grand Prix Horse of the Year. Ravel's median score of 78.542 percent made him the top horse in the United States competing at this level and the recipient of USDF's highest honor for the second year in a row. Ravel, represented by Akiko Yamazaki, was recognized at the 2010 Adequan/USDF Salute Gala and Annual Awards Banquet with a commemorative personalized plaque, an embroidered cooler and \$400 gift certificate provided by Dressage Extensions, and a gift certificate for Adequan joint therapy. Also, Ravel is the recipient of the Colonel Thackeray Award and will have his name engraved on a silver trophy to be on permanent display in the Roemer Foundation/USDF Hall of Fame housed at the USDF National Education Center, located at the Kentucky Horse Park.

"We are thrilled to be able to recognize this extraordinary horse for his many accomplishments this competition season, his owner Akiko Yamazaki, his rider Steffen Peters and the entire Ravel team," stated USDF Executive Director Stephan Hienzsch.

Photo by Lauren R. Giannini

We heard a rumor that **Jessica Ransehausen** was being inducted into the Guinness Book of World Records as the athlete with the greatest longevity in sport! We believe it, as Jessica won her first team medal in 1959, but can anyone out there confirm the rumor??

Guess which Royal is engaged?!? And no, we're not talking about a certain prince! The Royal we love to follow is eventer Zara Phillips! Zara became engaged recently to longtime boyfriend Mike Tindell, an English rugby player. Hmm, a rugby player and an eventer; that will make for some very tough blue-blooded offspring!

Sherry Guess received the **2010 USDF Volunteer of the Year Award**, presented by The Paddock Saddlery. This award recognizes a USDF member who, through consistent and cumulative volunteer activities, has demonstrated exceptional commitment towards carrying out USDF's mission. As the winner, Sherry was presented with a perpetual trophy, which is permanently on display in the Roemer Foundation/USDF Hall of Fame, will be featured in the yearbook issue of *USDF Connection*, and has received a "keeper" trophy and \$500 gift certificate from The Paddock Saddlery.



Dressage gone to Dogs? Sho Clothes top dogs, Michele and Doug Hundt have a new poodle, Arlo (a gift from Carol Cohen's pack), and Trilogy Saddles owner Debbie Witty has been spotted at the shows with her new pooch, Rudy who is a Norwich Terrier and soooo cute. Dream Stallions' Rick Silvia is also sporting a fancy new standard black poodle named Exxon after the stock he sold to buy the handsome pup! On a sadder note, Johnny Robb and Jackson Mitch lost their beloved Corgi, Zoe who truly ran their Dance Hall Farm and will be missed by all. We do know that Johnny is consoling herself with a new horse, a Russian Hanoverian, named Mr. Jones.

Annual meeting season is wrapping up, and at both the USEA and USDF annual meetings, helmet use was a hot topic. There's lots of talk around mandatory helmet rule changes for both eventing and dressage, and we're thinking that the day when all riders, *everywhere*, are required to wear their helmets while competing is inevitable.

Dressage rider Caroline Roffman recently returned from Taipei Thailand where she accepted the 2010 FEI Rising Star Award from Her Royal Highness Princess Haya during a dazzling ceremony.



Dressage apps? You betcha. The **USDF** and **Numen Communications** recently released the first version of the new **2011 USDF Introductory tests** in a downloadable iPhone application. The iPhone application has been developed for USDF Introductory Level Test A, USDF Introductory Level Test B, and USDF Introductory Level Test C. To download the applications or to see a full listing of EquiTests applications, visit the iTunes App Store.

Passing: Advanced-level eventer **Colin Davidson**, 29, passed away on December 6, after a one-car accident near his home in Charlottesville, Va. Medics found Colin responsive at the scene, but throughout the evening his condition worsened, and he did not respond to tests at the University of Virginia's Neurological Intensive Care Unit. Colin was a registered organ donor, and his family gave consent for him to be taken off life support as soon as any matches could be made. Colin was originally from South Conway, N.H., and competed through the four-star level on his horse Draco. He was named to the 2010 USEF Eventing developing rider list and had a very bright future ahead of him. He will be greatly missed by his family, his girlfriend, and everyone who was fortunate to cross his path.



Tina Konyot has been all over the globe since her fine performance at WEG she was off to races in Japan but is now settled back in not so warm South Florida and taking in horses for the 2011 training season. We caught up with her with Holly Johnson of JRPR recently when the two travelers exchanged a quick hello at Shop Talk. Holly just returned from Bahrain where she performed on Lipizzaner Stallions for the King of Bahrain. Just goes to show how small our horse world continues to get!

Rebecca Broussard, the founder and owner of The Event at Rebecca Farm, passed away on December 24th. Rebecca was one of eventing's greatest supporters as an owner of top horses and active leader in the USEA. In recent years, The Event at Rebecca Farm had grown and thrived under her direction. Her loss will be felt for years to come by everyone in the eventing community.

Equine Canada acknowledged the passing of long-time member, coach, official, clinician and mentor, **Jacqueline (Jacqui) Oldham**, 72, of Langley, BC, after a courageous battle with cancer. Jacqueline had over 60 years of experience in the horse industry

Continued on page 106

Tailgating at Rolex! Equestrian Events, Inc. producer of the **Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event, Presented by Bridgestone**, is offering eventing fans reserved tailgating spaces along portions of the famed cross-country course at the Kentucky Horse Park, giving them a chance to experience the action as never before. The purchase of a tailgating space provides a reserved location for a passenger vehicle plus general admission for up to eight people. Cross-Country Day is on Saturday, April 30. 25 mph and negotiate the course's breathtaking obstacles, water complexes, banks and ditches." Standard and Premium tailgating spaces are available at costs of \$275 and \$325 respectively. Tailgaters may bring their own food or they may pre-order special tailgating food and beverage packages available through Lundy's Catering. There will also be concessions stands near the tailgating locations. Further information on tailgating and ticket packages are available at the Rolex Kentucky website at www.rk3de.org. Tickets may be ordered online, or by printing the ticket order form from the website and returning it via mail or fax (859)-254-5116 to Equestrian Events, Inc. Tickets may also be ordered by calling 859-254-8123.



Continued from page 105
and had trained and competed in dressage up to the Grand Prix level. As an EC Level 2 Dressage Coach, Jacqueline shared her talent and knowledge with countless students from Training to Grand Prix levels. A dressage judge since 1976, Jacqui received her Equine Canada Senior Dressage Judge status in 1993 and her United States Equestrian Federation Senior status in 1994. Jacqui had the enviable reputation of judging with authority, fairness and compassion, and this afforded her the opportunity to judge competitions in North America, Australia and Barbados.



Two Lusitanos, driven in tandem by Cherri Reiber, kicked off the holiday season in style at Holiday HorseFest at the Meyer Amphitheatre in West Palm Beach's downtown waterfront. It was amazing day and the two Interagro Lusitanos strutted their stuff to whet the crowd's appetite for the upcoming Lusitano Collection™ auction to held at Jim Brandon Equestrian Center February 23-26th

News to share: New baby, engagement, pickup truck? On the move, having parties, falling off horses? Share what's happenin' with your dressage friends by e-mailing us at editor@sidelinesnews.com. Be sure to put "News Off Centerline" in the subject line.

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Walter works a horse in hand
Photos by Mark Neihart

A Chat With Walter Zettl – Master of Classical Dressage



By Jan Westmark

Chatting with dressage coach Walter Zettl is like visiting with your favorite uncle, the one who calls you “sweetheart” and “dear” and tells amazing stories of the old days and what it was like growing up in Czechoslovakia. When talking to Walter, it’s almost easy to forget that you are talking to one of the world’s most accomplished and revered masters of classical dressage, until he begins talking about his passion for horses and the sport.

Walter has been on the forefront of the dressage world for most of his life, and his impact ranges from coaching Olympic riders, to training and giving clinics, to writing books and producing DVDs. With all of his success, it wasn’t a surprise to his family, friends or current and former students when he was recently inducted into the Canadian Dressage Owners and Riders Association (CADORA) Hall of Fame. During his induction, CADORA said they considered Walter to be a valued contributor to the evolution of the sport of dressage.

Behind Every Great Man

Although he is now in his 80s, Walter still helps dressage riders achieve their dreams. “I never slow down, in fact I just taught a clinic two weeks ago,” he says, adding with a laugh, “Well, I will slow down when I am in the ground.”

Walter lives in St. Catharines, Ontario, near Niagara Falls, with his wife, Heide, whom he married in 1999. “I am not a rider, but I am involved in horses since I accompany Walter to all his clinics,” Heide says. “My two daughters from my first marriage used to ride hunters and jumpers until they went to university.”

Walter is quick to heap praises upon his wife, and added

Walter Zettl’s book “*Dressage In Harmony*,” is a staple in many dressage riders’ libraries

that she is the computer guru of the family. “I don’t have any clue about the computer, so Heide does all that,” he explains. “I have the best wife in the world. Heide has a lot of patience with me.”

Born in Czechoslovakia in 1929, Walter became the youngest person ever to be awarded the German Federation Gold Riding Medal at the age of 21, an award given for success in upper level dressage and jumping for a single competitive season.

Walter then spent years racking up accomplishments in Germany, before being recruited in 1981 to move to Canada to coach the young riders dressage team in Ontario followed by coaching dressage for the Canadian eventing team at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. Walter has a few funny stories about arriving in Canada, including finding out that the team “wasn’t any good.”

He Wrote the Book

“The team would follow me through the snow and sit in freezing temperatures to learn, because they really wanted to learn, and I knew from that moment on that I needed to do something to help them,” Walter says. “In fact, I started to write books - not to make money - but to help the Canadian riders. I saw that there wasn’t a lot of good teaching, so I wrote it to teach them.”

It took Walter 10 years to write *Dressage In Harmony*, a book that is a staple in many dressage riders’ libraries. “That book is still a bestseller with my publisher,” Walter says. “I am now on my third book which has just been sent to my publisher and will be translated into English.”

Walter is also well known for his DVD series “A Matter of Trust” which covers classical dressage techniques from training level to

grand prix. "During my induction into the Hall of Fame, many of my former students spoke and one of them said that they 'learned to ride better and be a better person' because of me. That was very touching," Walter said.

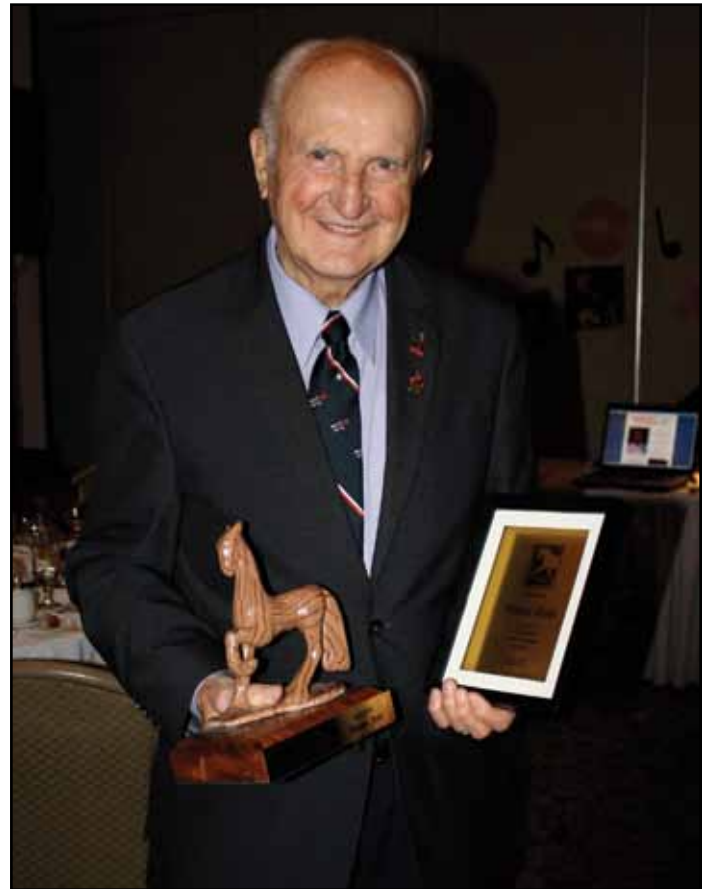
A Similar Approach

While the dressage world has benefited from Walter's commitment to teaching riders how to create a harmonious partnership between horse and rider, it isn't just the dressage world that studies under Walter. "About four years ago I started working with Pat and Linda Parelli," Walter says, referring to the world famous husband and wife team who developed the Parelli Method of Natural Horsemanship. "I have much love for horses and riders, and it doesn't matter what discipline. I still teach the Parellis every other month and they can do everything in a western saddle that my dressage riders can do."

Walter adds that he and Pat Parelli have the same approach to horsemanship – being kind and gentle with the horses. "Pat has built a great relationship on the ground with his horses and he is so kind. It's a pleasure to work with the Parellis because they try so hard and they always get better."

Helping riders get better and achieve their dreams has been a long-running theme of Walter's life. His counsel is also sought after; he is an Advisor Emeritus to *Dressage Today* Magazine and an advisor to Premier Equestrian, makers of dressage rings, jumps and stable products.

"Walter teaches you skills that last a lifetime," says Canadian dressage trainer Eddo Hoekstra, who wrote Walter's nomination letter for the Hall of Fame. "Walter teaches you how to take your horse to a place where you both feel great. If through his training approach you as a rider can feel like that, you can be sure your horse can feel like that too! That is real team effort, a real partnership, true harmony. That is Walter's art of training by the proper classical riding principles."



Walter accepts his awards during his induction into the Canadian Dressage Owners and Riders Association Hall of Fame

Photo by Christine Derksen

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Five Questions for Gary Lane

By Jan Westmark

For dressage rider and trainer Gary Lane, loving horses is in his blood. "I came from a family of horsemen and pretty much grew up in a barn. My father was a jockey and later trained and raced Standardbreds along with his father before him," Gary says.

While Gary's brother followed in their family's footsteps, Gary chose to pursue the sport horse industry. "I rode hunters until my early twenties, but I never really cared much for jumping. I always seemed to enjoy working on improving and developing the movement of my horses. I began to realize that dressage was the direction I wanted to go."

Gary, who lives in Boynton Beach, Florida, has been involved in the dressage industry for more than 20 years and has become an inspiring and well-respected fixture on the South Florida dressage circuit. "Living in South Florida fits my lifestyle. I have the best shows all winter long and can do some smaller ones in the summer. I love having the ability to come home to my 'only home' nearly every day of my life."

Sidelines: How did you end up living in South Florida?

GL: In 1987, when I was 23, I took a position at Iron Spring Farm. From that time on I concentrated solely on a career in dressage. It was there that I met my life partner Dean Camp. At 27 years of age, we moved to Florida where we started our own business training and competing in dressage. In 1994, we moved our business to The Country Club Stables where we met farm owner Carlene Blunt. Gradually we phased out our business and I now train and compete Carlene's horses exclusively.

Sidelines: Who do you train with?

GL: I have been riding with Jan Brons for six years. I had always admired his riding and thought he would work well with my style of training. It was a good call as he has been wonderful for me and has taught me so much. Without a doubt, he has been the biggest training influence of my career. He has helped develop my skills and technique, and I believe he has made me the trainer I am today.

Sidelines: What do you consider the biggest accomplishment of your career?

GL: It's hard to pick one accomplishment that stands out more clearly in my mind than others. Looking at my career, there have been wins that are more important than others and there are horses that I took further than anyone thought possible. There were also horses in which I saw something that others missed and then developed into something special. I think of my career as many small accomplishments that have brought me to the life I have today. I have a great sponsor in Carlene and she has given me a terrific life, a wonderful home and a beautiful facility filled with lovely horses. Mostly, however, I have a partner who has selflessly supported me in all ventures for more than 20 years. It's these relationships that I consider my truly greatest accomplishment.

Gary and Alvarinho Interagro, a six-year-old Isabel Lusitano stallion



Joanna Jodko © HorseSportsPhoto.com

Sidelines: You compete and own both Warmbloods and Lusitanos. Which do you prefer?

GL: I absolutely adore the Lusitano breed. They are bright, willing horses and possess an incredible work ethic. I believe my future will rest with the Lusitanos. I love the two KWPN geldings that I have but feel that I will stay with the Lusitanos from here on out. I won't say that I would never buy another Warmblood because I've had and still do have some incredible Warmbloods, but my heart tends to lead me to the Lusitanos. I had been interested in Iberian horses for quite some time and last year I decided to sell one of the Warmbloods that just wasn't for me. At that time I looked into the Iberian horses more seriously, at least see if I liked riding them. I contacted my friend Heather Bender, who's the American contact for Interagro Lusitanos. She took me to their farm in November 2009, and I've been hooked ever since. We now have eight in our stable, four of which are mine and four are Dean's. I plan to show three of my four later this season.

Sidelines: Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?

GL: I expect I'll be looking around the corner at 60! That said, I'm very happy in my life right now. If all goes well, I will hopefully be doing exactly what I'm doing today.




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The Future Looks Bright for Isabelle Leibler

By Jan Westmark

At 15, Isabelle Leibler is poised on the brink of being one of the best young dressage riders in the United States.

"When I was five, my mother used to take her hunter/jumper stallion to WEF where he would compete, and I would always leave to go and watch the dressage," Isabelle remembers. "I just fell in love with the sport as soon as I saw it. My mom didn't really know what to say when I told her what I wanted to do but we looked into it and eventually found Lendon Gray, who really launched my career in dressage. Lendon taught me so much and kept me interested and intrigued in the sport."

Dressage Ponies

Under the tutelage of Lendon, as well as Tuny Page and Lars Petersen, Isabelle made her mark on the FEI Pony division. Aboard her two German Riding Ponies, Isabelle qualified for the 2010 International Youth Festival in Hagen, Germany, where she proudly represented the United States.

"My years with my ponies Depardieu and Going West were the most memorable years of my riding career. I really learned a lot from them in both dressage and life," Isabelle adds. "They taught me patience, humility and tenacity. They were the best teachers, but they weren't easy. I worked the ponies up the levels and eventually entered the FEI Pony division. In 2010, we had our most successful season and earned scores in the high 60s and low 70s range from I and O judges at CDI competitions. These scores qualified me for the International Youth Festival in Hagen, Germany."

A Summer in Germany

Isabelle's first international competition proved to be an educational and positive experience. Thanks to the Dressage Foundation and Dressage 4 Kids, some of her travel expenses and entry fees were covered and Isabelle was able to stay in Germany for the entire summer. "I arrived in Germany on May 31st at Cornelia Endres' stable," says Isabelle. "She is the chef d'equipe of the German Pony Team and my family and I agreed that she would be the best to prepare me for the Youth Festival, where the best youth riders gather for an event that is like a Junior Olympics."

Isabelle said she will always remember driving onto the show grounds at Hof Kassermann and seeing the sprawling grounds, the endless line of lorries and buses and rows of white tents where dressage and jumping youth riders kept their horses. "We arrived the day before the jog, so we got to walk around and take in the sights and I was blown away," Isabelle says. "I couldn't wait to get started. We ended up having a really great show. I was only allowed to enter one pony so I entered Depardieu as my main horse and Going West as my reserve. We made it all the way to the A final freestyle where we finished 10th. Being able to show against the best in the world at this division, and having the opportunity to learn from them at the same time, was so influential to my dressage education."



Isabelle competes with her new horse, Watson 108

Photo by Joanna Jodko for Horse Sports Photo.com

Isabelle, who is far more advanced than the average 15 year old, said spending the summer in Germany turned out to be a once-in-a-life time experience. "I got to train and show in Germany for a whole summer, live on my own and manage my own horses and completely immerse myself in the language and culture," she explains. "It was a dream come true and I feel so lucky to have been able to participate. The best part about competing at the International Youth Festival was becoming part of the international horse community. I made so many great friends that I still keep in touch with today. I was able to learn so much from them because of all of their amazing experiences. And of course, a very memorable part of the show was entering the ring for my freestyle. I was so nervous the first two days but by the third day I felt like I belonged there and that I was there to represent the USA. It was the best feeling in the world!"

On to Horses

Following her summer in Germany, Isabelle said she knew it was time to say goodbye to the ponies, move on and start her Young Rider career with a horse. While in Europe, Isabelle met Watson 108, a 13-year-old Westphalian gelding.

"From the first time I rode Watson I loved him, spots and all (he has spots like an Appaloosa!) I loved his personality and it was like we understood each other from the beginning," she says. "I haven't had him for very long, and we are still getting to know each other, but I think that our relationship will only get stronger."

Isabelle, who lives in Greenwich, Connecticut during the year but spends the winters in Wellington at Stillpoint Farm, is now training with Susie Dutta and said she is looking forward to a

successful winter season. “Hopefully in the future I can qualify for the Young Rider World Cup in Frankfurt. I also have a goal to take Watson to Europe and show Young Riders over there at some of the big shows so I can get more international experience.”

Proving that youth isn’t wasted on the young, Isabelle said that while her life is devoted to dressage, she also likes to jump. “When I was in Germany, I jumped my ponies at least two times a week and it was so much fun. Going West and I jumped a 3’6” oxer one day, which was amazing considering he hadn’t jumped in such a long time, but he was a natural.”

Isabelle said riding western and reining could also be in her future, which considering the success she has already had – and her determination – doesn’t seem outside the realm of possibility.

“My family and I went on vacation to a ranch in Montana and I got to ride western which was so much fun,” Isabelle says. “I also saw some reining at the World Equestrian Games last year and it just looks awesome. I would love to try it one day!”

Isabelle and Depardieu at the awards ceremony at the International Youth Festival in Hagen, Germany

Photo by Renee Leibler



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Fuego XII and Juan Manuel Muñoz Diaz

By Erin Gilmore

Electric. Artistic. Unforgettable. By the end of their freestyle, which opened to the notes of a Spanish guitar and concluded with a showman's flourish, Juan Manuel Muñoz Diaz and Fuego XII had gained 46,496 new fans. The judges may have placed them fifth, but in front of a packed stadium during the Grand Prix Dressage Freestyle at the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games last fall, they became instant audience favorites.

In a discipline that rarely varies from the population of warmbloods at its top levels, that freestyle brought new attention to Spanish bred horses, and to Fuego, a 13-year-old Pura Raza Española stallion. As Juan rode one handed tempi changes down centerline and the crowd exploded in cheers, Fuego became the latest, and perhaps brightest, shining star to show that PRE horses can hold their own at the grand prix level.

"The stadium was on fire with Fuego XII," recounts Juan. "That's what excited me most. For me it was one of the highlights of my professional life. I felt a great satisfaction and joy; it was amazing."

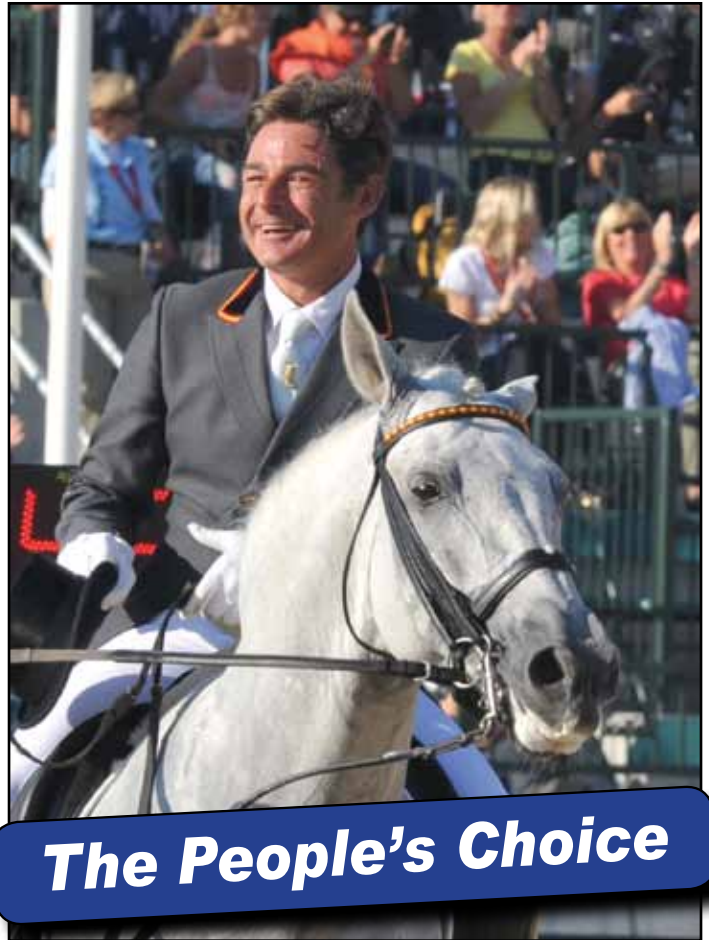
The Cárdenas Tradition

Juan and Fuego's path to WEG began in Ecija, a town near Seville, in the south of Spain. The area is known not only as one of the most beautiful cities in Andalucía, but as a region with a great equestrian tradition that is home to Spain's most prestigious PRE stud farms. Juan trains from Yeguada Cárdenas (The Cardenas Stud), one of the oldest and most traditional Spanish stud farms worldwide. Owned by Miguel Angel de Cárdenas, the magnificent Spanish stud farm has produced 14 Spanish National Championship winners, and the Cárdenas PREs are a favorite subject of photographer Robert Vavra, who has featured them in several of his books.

Into that illustrious fold, Juan had the good fortune to be hired as Yeguada Cárdenas' head trainer just as Fuego turned 4 years old. Before WEG, the pair were already 2008 Olympic veterans and Spanish national champions. As a result of their international schedule, they spend months every year living and competing from Europe, but when they are home in Spain, tradition rules. Fuego stands at stud at the farm, and has sired over 50 offspring, a notable accomplishment for a high performance competition horse.

Juan's daily routine includes schooling the young horses at the stud, overseeing working students and teaching. And "at 11:30 each morning, I start working with Fuego. We go for a walk through the countryside followed by a training session for about 45 minutes," Juan says. "When Fuego is breeding, his work is not as hard, and in January we started to train for the upcoming competitions."

Their connection that was so apparent during WEG is due to that close, nearly lifelong partnership between horse and rider. Juan, who first spotted Fuego as a colt



The People's Choice

Juan Manuel Muñoz Diaz and Fuego XII after the Grand Prix Special at WEG

Photo by Lauren R. Giannini

at auction, has not only brought him along through his entire career, to this day he is hands on in the care of the grey stallion. "I personally take care of Fuego, firstly because I like horses, and secondly because I think it is very important for a rider to know your horse," he explains. "Not only are you there to ride, you must know him perfectly, and that can only be achieved by having a good friendship with him."

"After all these years training with him, this horse still has something special in his big eyes," Juan adds. "He is suspicious of people he does not know, and he loves all kinds of fruit. He has a great personality, when he goes to a new place he says 'attention, I'm here.' He likes to show off."

A Bright Future

And show off he did. Their WEG ride, which sparked debate on the value of technical versus artistic merit in dressage, was celebrated for bringing a new level of artistic excitement to the freestyle. "We can not forget that this discipline is an art," adds Juan. "We have to have light and movement with our horses, and in the performances with music the artistic part is very important."

Looking ahead, Juan's focus is on the 2011 European Championships, where a high-placing performance will give him qualification for London in 2012. The impact he made at WEG will carry over for at least that long, and two more years together to refine their style even more makes for a bright future.

As the nearly 50,000 dressage fans left the Kentucky Horse Park on that chilly fall night last October, it's safe to say that they were sharing the same thoughts. At its worst, dressage is dull, dry and without joy. But at its best, dressage is Fuego XII.



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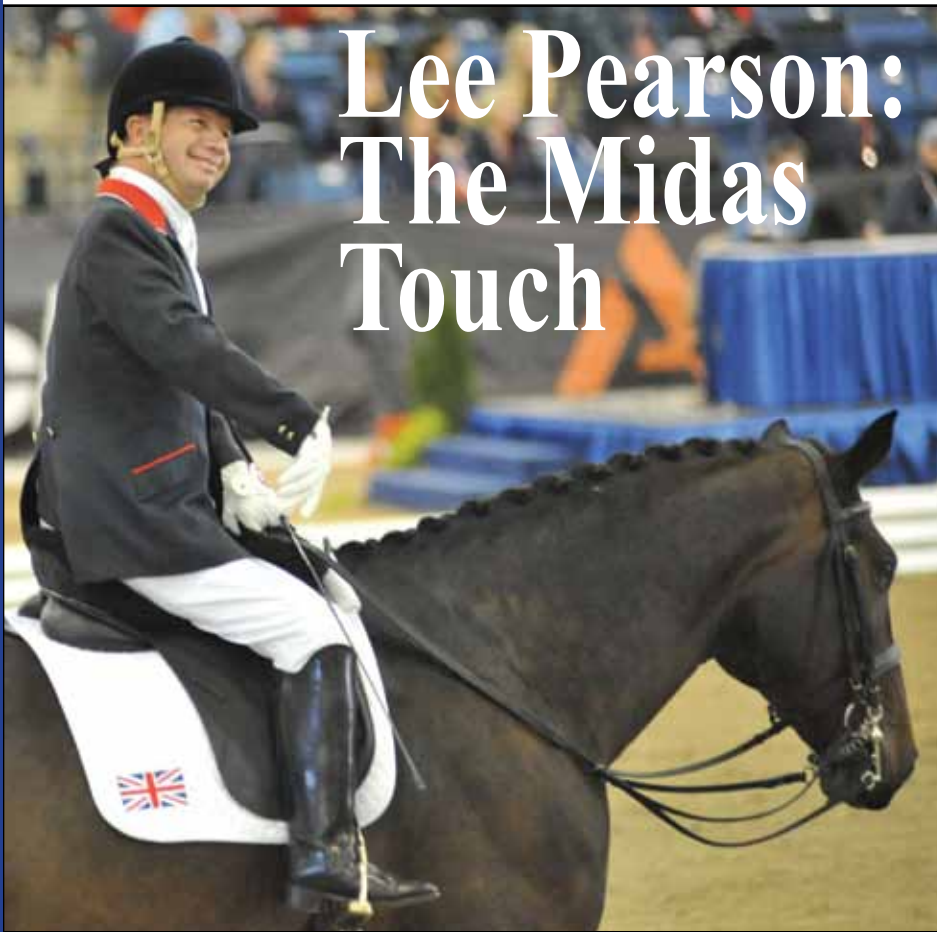
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Lee Pearson: The Midas Touch



Lee Pearson, smiling at the cheers, exits the arena with Gentleman: they finished first on 73.81% in the Team test, helping Great Britain to score her first para dressage gold medal at the Alltech Games



Before the bell to start their freestyle, Lee Pearson smiled at Gentleman's warm-up, but he later admitted that he had to ride every movement and was surprised they scored so well. It seems that Gentleman doesn't quite live up to his name...

Story and Photos by Lauren R. Giannini

Great Britain's Lee Pearson CBE hasn't missed a gold medal since he started competing internationally. Riding in the FEI discipline of para dressage, he won Individual, Freestyle and Team Gold at the Sydney Olympics on a borrowed horse. He replicated the feat again in Athens 2004 aboard his beloved Blue Circle Boy (aka "Gus".) Ditto, in Beijing 2008: Lee partnered with Gentleman, a horse he trained himself from a basic walk, trot, and canter.

Lee's three European titles and six world championships in para dressage include his recent triumphant visit to the United States for the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games. In the heart of bluegrass country at the Kentucky Horse Park, Lee and Gentleman scored another golden hat trick in the Team, Individual and Freestyle championships.

"It was phenomenal," stated Lee, who lives in Staffordshire (UK) close to his training yard. "It was the first time that para equestrian had been part of the World Equestrian Games. So it was very special to be with able-bodied competitors and to be part of the first para equestrian medals awarded."

An Independent Childhood

Lee was born in 1974 with Arthrogyrosis Multiplex Congenita: in the womb, his muscles grew like scar tissue. By the age of six he had endured 15 operations. He first experienced being in the media spotlight in 1980: Prime

Minister Margaret Thatcher herself carried him up the steps of 10 Downing Street in London for the youngster to receive a Children of Courage Award.

His love of all things horses started in childhood. When his parents saw he couldn't pedal a bicycle to keep up with his brothers and friends, they bought him a donkey. Lee has always loved horses, so he was thrilled the Christmas he got a pony.

"I had a brilliant childhood," recalled Lee. "I have very strong-minded parents and I was encouraged to be independent and do whatever my two older brothers did. My mother helped me get the riding lessons. She had to watch me bouncing around and falling off. She'd say 'if you fall off and break anything, we'll take you to the hospital. If you haven't, you get back on again.' I think that's really why I am where I am today."

The career-changing moment took place after he left school and got an office job that he hated: while watching the Atlanta Paralympics, he thought he might get into that. But a chance comment that he probably wouldn't be good enough hit Lee like someone waving big red flags at a bull.

Grand Prix Goals

Lee has evolved into an extremely accomplished horseman. He trains able-bodied dressage riders as well as para equestrians. In 2003 he became the only disabled rider to win a title at the British Dressage National Championships. Plus, he has a huge goal of competing able-bodied in Grand Prix. He competed Gus at Prix St. Georges and was schooling the dun Hanoverian-Welsh gelding at Grand Prix level.

Lee uses crutches to get around when not in a motorized chair and also wears full braces for his legs. His arms can be a bit weak, but he has incredible balance and core strength. He certainly hasn't allowed anything to get in the way of trying his skill at show jumping, cross-country and endurance, but he's at a point where he must concentrate on dressage. With so much riding on his continued success, he can't afford time off if he breaks anything. His focus is amazing; ditto, his work ethic and dedication.

His limbs may be crooked, weak and scarred, but so what: he's an inspiring role model for all riders, both able-bodied and disabled – and he's magic in the saddle.



During "God Save The Queen", Gentleman tried to eat the sunflower seeds in Lee's bouquet. At 17.2hh he's a force to be reckoned with and tends to act a bit snarky, horse-wise



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Life As She Knows It: Courtney King-Dye

By Erin Gilmore

There was the before, and then there was the after. Before, she basked in the thrill of cantering down centerline at the Olympic Games. After, it was a thrill to move her own feet, one in front of the other. Before, she rode half a dozen elite horses per day. After, climbing atop a 22-year-old therapy horse was a task worth celebrating. Before, she left her helmet in the tack room. And after . . . well, we all know the answer to that.

In an instant, Courtney King-Dye's life was split into the before and after. After the horse she was riding on March 3, 2010 tripped and fell, taking a helmet-less Courtney with him to the ground, the 2008 Olympic dressage veteran lay in a coma for more than three nerve-wracking weeks, with a cracked skull and swelling to her brain. And when she woke, it was to the mystery of brain trauma, where the rehabilitation process is lengthy, and there's no guarantee of a complete recovery.

But in the eleven months since her fall, Courtney has not only made significant steps towards a full recovery, she has become the catalyst for an industry-wide change in perception on helmet use.

No Day the Same

Courtney awoke from the coma last April with husband Jason Dye and longtime mentor Lendon Gray at her side. Immediately, her focus was on getting better. As she graduated from a hospital room, to rehabilitation at the Kessler Institute in New Jersey, to finally living at home full time, riding dressage again was never a question for Courtney. It was just a matter of when. Today, her routine is packed full of activities with one big thing in common – to help her meet that goal.

"Every day is different," says Courtney. "I always wake up by 5, and just do emails till my husband wakes. Then I do physical and occupational therapy or work out on my own for a couple hours. Three days a week I take speech therapy, once a week a therapist walks with me, one evening a week I do hippo therapy, and one morning I do yoga."

Courtney's speech, balance and coordination were all severely affected by her injury, but "If anything, with how badly my brain was damaged, I'm damn lucky it's not worse," she says.

As soon as she was able, Courtney began candidly documenting her progress, blog-style at courtneykingdressage.com. "I just think there's been so much caring; the least I can do is let people know about my journey if they're interested," she explains.

Undoubtedly, the horse world is interested.

Since last March, Courtney's fall has been used to support everything from National Helmet Awareness Day to an eventing helmet rule change. In her own sport of dressage, the collective shock at the severity of her injury brought about that change in perception among other top dressage riders, who began wearing helmets in competition the week after her fall.



Supported by Lendon Gray to her left and good friend Betsy Tyler to her right, Courtney leaves the stadium at the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games after watching Steffen Peters' test in the Team Grand Prix

Photo by Selena Frederick/Cheval Photos

The most visible show of support for helmets in dressage came last fall, when Courtney's friend and fellow Olympian Steffen Peters donned a helmet during the awards ceremony for his bronze-medal winning freestyle at the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games, and dedicated his ride to Courtney.

"I'm happy that Steffen's wearing a helmet brought so much respect to wearing one," she says. "It meant so much to me that he wore one, to me personally as well as that I realized from WEG that the top riders are role models, and he was showing it's ok to wear a helmet."

Progress Is Getting Better

Last July Courtney began hippo therapy sessions, and although the older, rock-steady mounts are a far cry from her own horses, she explains, "Just being around horses feels sensational. I love loving them to bits and get a ton of joy just breathing them in!"

While Courtney is itching to ride her own horses again, she won't take the chance of riding them before she feels 100% ready. Assistant Jen Marchand keeps her business going until Courtney is ready to return full time. These days, Courtney teaches Jen from the ground and visits her horses at least three days a week. The barn is in Florida for the winter season, and Courtney is searching for a grand prix horse to lease to help her return to competition.

"Progress is getting better, closer to your goal," adds Courtney. "I intend to ride the same as I did before, and continue to progress my riding from there. The 2012 Olympic Trials are something I'll strive for. I hope to be ready by then."

And when she returns to the ring, one thing is a given. Courtney King-Dye will be wearing her helmet.

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Visualization: It Works for Me

By Ann S. Reilly, Ph.D.

After teaching riders and other athletes how to develop visualization skills for over 25 years now, and using it myself in performance situations, I am convinced that it is the most effective warm up method for competitive performance.

As a junior I spent countless hours visualizing riding and jumping when I was bored in school, riding in the car with my parents, or had idle time. But what I didn't do was practice it before riding each course at the shows. I got nervous, and fought for calmness. If only I knew then what I know now... visualization prior to each class would have calmed my nerves and given me the feeling that I had ridden the course before I actually rode it.

A Forced Choice

I love showing. This year I began showing in dressage, a forced choice. On June 1, 2008 a horse (not mine) severely kicked my lower leg, requiring 11 surgical procedures to date (four more pending), and leaving me with a 70 percent permanent disability to my right leg. Due to the resulting chronic pain, permanent muscle loss from Compartment Syndrome in my calf, and some paralysis in my foot and lower leg, the injury took away the "love" of my life, which was jumping.

Dressage is much more difficult than I ever imagined. Sitting on the couch recovering from a November 2008 surgery, I emailed Jules Nyssen, and asked him if he could get me a grand prix level dressage horse I could ride in the 2012 Olympics... well, no. But Jules sold me a great horse Prix St. George level horse named Vlegel, (aka Dennis.) Before buying Dennis I took Leila, my jumper, down to start learning dressage with Jules, who is a master dressage rider, trainer and teacher. Even though I had been sidelined with the injury for over a year, I was shocked to learn just how difficult dressage really is to ride correctly. I felt like a complete idiot.

Visualize... and Succeed

In June 2010, when I began showing dressage, I constantly visualized and watched videos of top dressage riders to enhance visualizing my position changes. After memorizing the tests, I spent hours visualizing and physically practicing the required changes to my position. I also learned to ride a new horse with one and a half legs (they call the injury an above knee amputation, even though I still have the leg). What I failed to do until the Colonel Bengt Ljungquist Memorial Championships (CBLM) class at the Virginia Dressage Association Fall Competition, Lexington Horse Center, (the last one for us for the year) was to go to the ring I was to perform in and sit there visualizing the test. Because it is so painful for me to walk and I have to "save my leg for riding," I would sit in my car and visualize the test. This worked OK, but was not the secret to attaining



peak performance with visualization.

For the finals class, I sat in the stands, alone for about an hour, as I have done with clients for years, visualizing my test with my eyes open and closed. The result was my highest score by far of the year. I was 100 percent in the zone, I rode each step, held my "new position" for the first time, sat the lengthened trot for the first time (Dennis' is huge and hard to sit) and was anxiety free. The performance felt effortless.

Proof in the Points

The difference I noticed from watching the tape from my warm up class the day before to the CBLM ride was astonishing. As was the ten point higher score from the judge who judged us the previous day.

Unfortunately, we were included in a group of about 15 riders in the class who received unexplainable, inconsistently low scores from the second judge. I will save how to deal with that for another column! The judge who judged us the day before put us in 3rd place in the finals class. More importantly, the proper use of visualization for the class brought how I knew I could perform in the finals in my head, into the show ring. After an incredibly frustrating year of learning dressage with a disability and show dressage on a fantastic horse (another column, the psychology of riding a "star" horse when you are a novice), it was thrilling to perform our best in the finals. I did know it was possible if I prepared myself the way I had prepared in the past for hunters and jumpers, and always prepared clients.

Visualization is the most effective performance skill a rider or athlete can learn and use. Performance will improve by leaps and bounds when riders consistently practice visualization.

Author's note: I am available to teach visualization individually or to groups, in practice or competitive locations.

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Be Careful How You Represent A Horse: Some Sellers Find No Protection Under Express Warranty

By Lisa Hollister, Esq.

Often a sales contract or bill of sale will contain language disclaiming any warranties either implied (those for fitness of purpose) or express (those made with a specific guarantee). Courts have upheld such disclaimers, which often come in language such as "No Warranties" or "As Is", but not under all circumstances. Minimally, to uphold such language the disclaimer must not be obscure. Rather, it must be prominent, giving the buyer notification that the sale has some conditions attached to it limiting buyers from making claims against seller after the purchase. However, if the seller has made an express warranty (either verbally or in writing) during the negotiation process or in the contract between the parties, the disclaimer will not waive the warranty.

Travis v. Washington Horse Breeders Association, Inc., 759 P. 2d 418

Facts

Robert Travis became familiar with a racehorse auction through advertisements which promoted horses offered for sale and advertised them as being "truly outstanding" and "born to run." The advertisements promoting the horses were run on television, in the *Washington Horse Magazine* and the *Daily Racing Form*. Four days prior to the sale, Travis visited the auction grounds and met with Dale Leach, an agent of Northwest Farms. Leach told Travis that Hip No. 2, the horse which Travis was interested in, was a "fine athlete" and "in very good condition."

During the sale Travis purchased the colt for \$25,000. One week after purchasing the colt, Travis had the colt examined by a veterinarian who detected a loud heart murmur. Travis immediately contacted the sellers and requested rescission of the sale (the annulling or unmaking of the contract for the sale of goods), and was refused. The sellers alleged that because of the language in the auction catalog, the sale could not be rescinded once the horse was removed from the grounds. Travis then obtained a more extensive vet check, which found that the horse was unsound and should not carry a rider. Both the seller and the auction house based their position that the sale was final on the Disclaimers of Warranty contained in the sales catalog.

Travis filed a lawsuit against the auction house and seller for implied warranty of merchantability, implied warranty of fitness for a particular purpose, express warranty, mutual mistake and the Consumer Protection Act. The jury returned a verdict for Travis in favor on each of the five claims. To simplify matters, this article will only deal with the claim for a breach of express warranty.

Express Warranties & the Appeals Court's Decision

Uniform Commercial Code Article 2 (UCC) governs

the sale and or transaction of goods. Goods are anything that is movable at the time of identification; as a result animals are considered goods and thus governed by the UCC. The Court first had to determine whether the express and implied warranty provisions of the UCC apply to sales that are made at auction. The Court found that they did and as a result was able to move to the next issue and determine whether the disclaimer made in the auction catalog precluded the buyer from successfully raising a claim that an express warranty had been made as to the colt.

The Court found that specifically the section of the UCC concerning express warranties holds that if the fact finder (the party determining the facts of the case but not necessarily the law) determines that a seller's statement created an express warranty, a disclaimer will have no effect if the disclaiming language would be inherently inconsistent with the warranty. As a result, a seller who explicitly "warrants" or "guarantees" that the goods being sold are without defects then that party can not set up a disclaimer claiming that the express warranty should be barred once they have been sued because the goods sold did not live up to the warranty. The Court in this case found that it would be unreasonable to allow a disclaimer for the express warranty, which was made by both the auction house and the farm selling the colt.

In the decision the Court stated that when a seller discusses with the purchaser the item being purchased they make the qualities discussed a part of the contract. Therefore it is presumed that the purchaser does not intend to waive any warranties (those claims of performance, condition or suitability of the goods being sold) made by the seller and thus the disclaimer should not be part of what has been agreed upon by the two parties.

Conclusion

If you are a purchaser, listen carefully to the statements the seller is making about the horse you are buying during the negotiation process. If you are the seller, be careful of how you represent the horse that you are selling. Do not make broad sweeping statements which are not true and then expect to be exonerated

from having to live up to those statements merely because you have a disclaimer in your written contract.



Lisa Hollister is an attorney practicing in Cincinnati, Ohio. Questions for Ms. Hollister's column can be addressed to twinbridgefarm@aol.com

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Photo by Beth Harpham / equidigital.com

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Polo Kids

Name: Sardar Ameer-Humza Ahmad Khan

Hometown: Frisco, Texas

Age: 14

Ponies Played: Enzo, America Girl, CiCi, Walker

Coaches: David Barons and my father, Adnan Sardar and my mom Shazieh Ahmad who yells instructions from the sidelines!

Of all the ponies you've ridden, which is your favorite? Enzo - he is a gelding that once belonged to Matias Magrini and Sain Joseph that is now owned by my father.

What pony would you like to ride? Califa!

How did you get into polo? My father encouraged me to play and than I got hooked! I started playing last year in PTF I/I Interscholastic for Ft. Worth Team.

What is your favorite tournament? Outdoor at Prestonwood Polo Club, but I would love to play in the US Open and the Argentine Open.

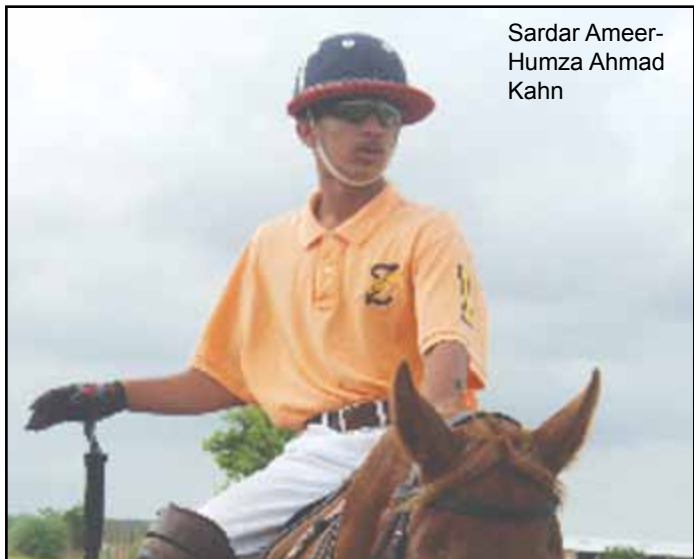
What was the high point in your polo career? Scoring the winning goal at Prestonwood Polo Club during the final game of 'Polo on the Lawn'.

What was the low point? Losing in the Interscholastic Final Tournament at Brushy Creek.

Who are your Polo Idols? Memo Gracida and Bautista Heguy, Adolfo Cambiaso.

Other than polo, what do you do? I play football, basketball, soccer and run track for my Griffen Middle School, Frisco, Texas.

What are your plans for the future? I want to go to Stanford, graduate with a medical degree and be a successful surgeon and play polo all my life.



Sardar Ameer-Humza Ahmad Kahn

Want to be a Polo Kid?

Fill out this easy questionnaire and e-mail it to editor@sidelinesnews.com. Be sure to include a photo scanned at a minimum of 300 dpi, and tell us who took the picture.

Name:
Hometown:
Age:
Ponies:
Coaches:
Of all the ponies you've ridden, which is your favorite?

What pony would you like to ride?

How did you get into polo?
Where do you play?
What is your favorite tournament?
What was the high point in your polo career?
What was the low point?
Who are your Polo Idols?
Other than polo, what do you do?
What are your plans for the future?



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Catching up: Pretty (nice) in pink. **The Gay Polo League** will donate 50 percent of admission sales to Palm Beach County Human Rights Council during their second annual tournament April 2nd, 2011 hosted by Grand Champions Polo Club in Wellington, FL. You go, guys!

Equus & Co, private advisors to the global equestrian community, has announced five finalists in their quest to aide the top member of the 2010 Team USPA program. **Carlos Galindo, Jr., Steve Krueger, Nick Snow, Jake Stimmel** and **Mason Wroe** will all submit essays to the company in hopes to receive a \$5,000 gift to assist with expenses and further development of their polo career.

Feb 18th, 2011 will see the induction of the **2011 Polo Hall of Fame Inductees**. This year's nominees are: **Stephen A. Orthwein, Charles Cary Rumsey, Merle Jenkins** and **Jules Romfh**. Horses to be inducted are: **Tommy Wayman's La Fortuna** and **Devereux Milburn's Tenby**

We hear **Erin Davis** is Erin Davis again... No longer Erin Davis-Walsh... and she's been spending some time in Europe! Enough said.

We were delighted to hear that indomitable force of polo, **Papa Kuhn**, is doing well and is itching to get back to Florida to see all of his polo friends. Papa, you are the best!

While **Jerry Spittler** hasn't played in 5 years (after he spent one year trying to play after he lost his eye and broke his neck) he's definitely still into horses, having moved back to Aiken, and taken up foxhunting and just a little stick and ball stuff (or so he says) while keeping company with **Samantha Charles**. Look for this dynamic duo beside or on the fields in Florida, Aiken and the slopes of Colorado.

And speaking of Colorado, congratulations to **Nick Cifuni**, who is engaged to longtime girlfriend **Libby Keating**. We want photos of the wedding!

Club News: **Ellerstina** won the **Triple Crown of Polo** in Argentina after beating **La Dolfina** 14-13 in the finals of the 116th Argentine Open Polo Championship. The game



Luis and Nico Escobar enjoyed some father-son time at Port Mayaca Polo



Snow polo! The winners of Aspen Snow Polo for the second year in a row? No surprises there. It was Audi's Melissa Ganzi, Juan Bollini and Kris Kampsen. The only injury of snow polo weekend??? Tommy Biddle accidentally hitting wife Yvette in the nose with a frozen polo ball! (ok, the ball ricocheted off the fence and hit her, so thankfully not the full force of a Biddle-ball!) Nose and family are fine

Photo by Yvette Biddle

Cowboys and Indians? Nope. It's the Central Coast Polo Club and Cal Poly's Polo Team that paired up to ride in the annual Los Osos Christmas Parade. Looking good!



was tied 8 times throughout the finals, after being rained out two minutes into the first chukker the previous day. The Triple Crown (Hurlingham Open, Tortugas Open and Argentine Open) have not been won by the same consecutive team in 40 years! Brothers **Facundo and Gonzalito Pieres** teamed with MVP **Juan Martin Nero** and **Pablo McDonough** for the three tournament victories.

The Villages in Lady Lake, Florida, wrapped up their fall season with the finals of their 12 goal tournament, won also by brothers. **Brent and Jaime Mirikitani** took home the final win of the season with teammates **Shane Rice** and **James Miller**.

While the spring, fall and summer clubs are wrapping things up, **International Polo Club Palm Beach, Gulfstream, Empire, Sarasota** and **Port Mayaca** polo clubs kicked off their winter

season in early January. Let the good times roll!

Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club, which has the largest facilities in China, opened on November 4th, 2010, with its inaugural tournament, the Goldin Cup. The club will host Asia's first snow polo tournament from February 15 -20, following the Chinese New Year holidays. Six teams from England, France, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina and China at the 14 goal level will participate. The professional international management team at Metropolitan Polo Club is headed by General Manager **Paul Stevens**, who is the former manager of Guards Polo Club in England. With him on the team are Head polo professional is **Derek Reid**, a former Australian polo captain, and Director of Stable Operations **John Fisher**, a former player whose home club is in Cowdray Park, England.



Congratulations to **Karen Reese** and **Craig Fraser** who've brought interscholastic polo back to Aiken. **Austin Allen, Miranda Gantt, Tess Pimsner** and **Jeff Schuler** all took part in their first tournament against teams from Charleston and Atlanta, coming in second. Not bad for a first outing.

News to share: New baby, engagement, pickup truck? On the move, having parties, falling off horses? Share what's happenin' with your polo friends by e-mailing us at editor@sidelinesnews.com. Be sure to put "News for Asides" in the subject line.

Kathy Batchelor hasn't hunt up her mallets, but this mini hitch has to be addictive. What do they pull? Pony beer?

Showtime for Polo Ponies!



Last year's Grand Champion, Cibby, owned by Carlos Gonzalez

By Danika Rice

Tuesday March 29, 2011 will mark the return of the American Polo Horse Association's annual National Polo Pony Show at the Jim Brandon Equestrian Center, West Palm Beach, Florida. In their second annual event, APHA president and founder Sunny Hale hopes to provide a meeting place for the entire polo horse industry to showcase their polo ponies and breeding stock. Participants have the distinct advantage to expose their talented horses to players, owners, spectators, breeders and trainers from all over the world, that come to Wellington each year for the annual polo season.

The Groom's Competition

In addition to several halter and performance classes, the polo pony show also includes an opportunity to recognize the great grooms of polo through the very entertaining and exciting Groom's Competition. Teams of grooms compete against each other in timed heats, tacking and stripping horses similar to a game situation that mimics the same importance of a great NASCAR pit crew on race day. Entries open as of January 1, 2011.

At press time judges were being confirmed, but an early peek at the list includes retired 8 goal American player, trainer and horseman Dale Smicklas. Dale's professional polo career spanned over twenty years in the U.S. and England and his partial list of accomplishments include multiple polo tournament victories in 8- 26 and 30 goal World Cup competition; training and selling polo ponies to 10-goal professionals, patrons and organizations all over the world as well as a list of Best Playing awards for ponies he played throughout his career.

The American Polo Horse Association

The American Polo Horse Association was founded in 2006. The APHA includes a registry and website (www.americanpolohorse.com.) The registry is open to all horses being used for polo in the United States, of any breed or descent whether their parentage is known or unknown. Each horse that is registered receives a five picture online profile and certificate of registration. At the APHA's website, viewers can search polo pony profiles, pedigrees, photos, Best Playing Pony records, brands, stallion profiles and search the Polo Pony Library. Sunny states, "I created the American Polo Horse Association out of my pure passion and love of the horses we spend so much of our lives with. The Association provides an opportunity for people with the same passion to follow, learn about and support the work it takes to give these horses the recognition they deserve."

When asked what factors she considers most in looking for quality polo ponies, Sunny says, "For me the most important thing is an immediate connection I either feel or don't, because although almost all horses can be trained for polo by one person or another, it is usually your belief in the horse that produces the opportunity to develop the horse's potential. I usually give a huge amount of consideration to the eye, shoulder and overall confirmation as it pertains to soundness and balance. Good confirmation is a huge head start in the process, but not necessarily an absolute factor in a great horse. Some great horses are the most puzzling picture to look at, breaking every rule in commonly accepted confirmation standards, but what they have is the desire to learn and the heart of an over achiever."

Setting Standards

Sunny gave consideration of both those factors when creating the list of classes for the polo pony show concept. She



Miami, Reserve Grand Champion and winner of the Polo Open Futurity Class in last year's show, owned by Melissa Ganzi

created a way to recognize two standards to grow within the show development: the very unique and desirable polo pony type, which is viewable in halter classes for all age groups and stallions; and the performance of young and seasoned horses which is viewable in the Futurity and Open Performance classes. Future goals and further development for the National Polo Pony Show include hopes to add a Breeder's Select and Prospect Sale and, in continuing the mission to recognize horses around the country, create opportunities for host locations and individuals to apply for an APHA sanctioned show that will be tied to the National Show each year.

"By providing trainers, breeders, owners and players a place to showcase their ponies locally and nationally each year, we will begin to recognize the quality and locations of great horses and industry talents throughout the US," adds Sunny. "These shows will be opportunities for people in the polo horse industry to show their horses locally and gain recognition through an annual polo pony show performance points system."

In conjunction with growth and exposure of the National Polo Pony Show, the APHA hopes to increase the amount of searchable information on their website, through visibility of registered polo ponies, their tournament and show records, stallion profiles and the Polo Pony Library of learning opportunities. The future also holds a potential alliance with AQHA, to

mutually recognize the American Quarter Horses being used for polo at any level.

One of Sunny's future goals is the creation of a verifiable performance record system for playing and breeding stock similar to the AQHA and Jockey Club, that can be used as a reference point for breeding research and future sales. This winter the APHA will provide a list of registered horses playing in the US Open with searchable profiles, as well as presenting and selecting the Best Registered Horse of the US Open Award, which includes a \$500 cash award to its groom.



*Performance Class Judges at work- Adolfo Cambiaso, Mara Haggan, Bart Evans
All photos by Snoopy*

Family Fun at Port Mayaca Polo



In the 6 Goal Family Tournament at Port Mayaca Polo in South Florida, December 29 -January 1, Blanco Texas defeated Atlantic Western's August Scherer, CB Scherer, Sergio Silvestre (the game's MVP) and Brad Scherer in overtime 7-6. Sharing the glory: Blanco TX's Connell Erb, Bill Townsend, Brad Blake and Tom Sikes



Best Playing Pony in the 6-goal was Joey, played by Bill Townsend in the first and in the overtime chukker. Joey is owned by Tom Sikes



In the 10 goal at Port Mayaca, Northwood's Robert Orthwein, Mike Ramos, Weston Gracidas and Julio Gracidas defeated Mt Airy's Tiffany Busch, replacing Garrick Steele, Richard Dudman, Ezra Stevenson and Adrian Wade 12-4. Game MVP was Julio Gracida, who scored 10 of his team's 12 goals



Anchor was picked as the best playing pony of the 10 goal. Anchor is owned and played by Adrian Wade

Five Questions for Russ Sheldon

By Danika Rice

There are many clichés rooted in the idea of America's "soccer mom." The overly enthusiastic cheerleader, the "I'll never miss a game" attitude, the snack baking, drink bringing sideline staple that excites everyone playing on the team. Well, if our nation has the "soccer mom," then the sport of polo has the ultimate "polo grandpa." Russ Sheldon has created his life and rooted his family within his passion for polo, and hasn't stopped giving back since the first swing of a mallet. From being Chairman of the Intercollegiate/Interscholastic Committee, serving as a United States Polo Association Governor-at-Large, as well as serving on multiple committees, Russ balances his involvement with the USPA in addition to acting as President of the Poway Polo Club. The Poway Polo Club, founded in 1973 after Russ moved from Michigan to sunny Southern California, now proudly boasts 51 playing members, 12 of them students new to the sport. It is this club in which Russ, his three children, and 8 of his grandchildren learned the sport of polo together, playing with and against each other amongst various club members to create admiration, respect and adoration for the sport, horses and competition it brought for all three generations.

Sidelines: Who's been the most influential person in your life and why?

RS: Wow, that's a loaded question. I guess I'd have to say Merle Jenkins. He introduced me to polo when I was still in Michigan in 1972. It was cold and there was nothing else to do for the winter, so I started playing.

Sidelines: Can you name one of the most memorable horses you've ever played?

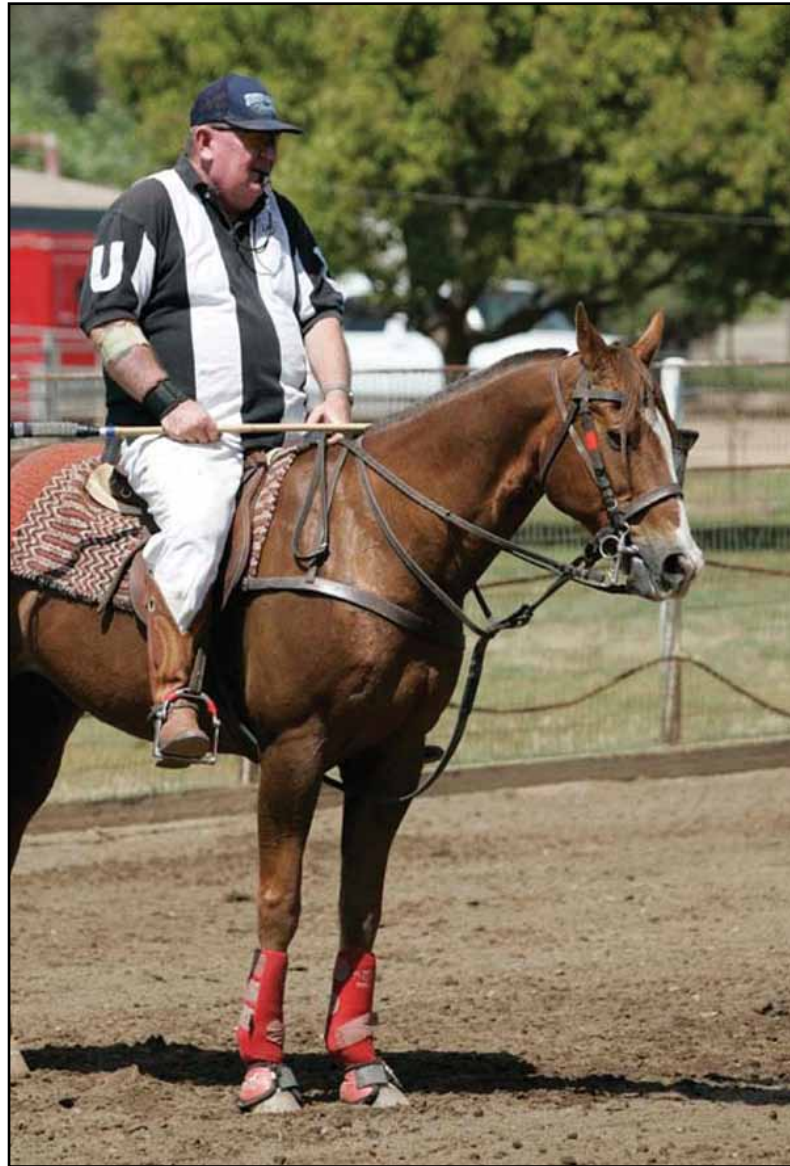
RS: If we're talking memorable, I'd say my mare Angel. It's not often you have a horse try to kick you in the groin. In all seriousness though, there really have been too many to pick just one. I can't say one horse is better than Quincy [Russ' 23 year old horse that he still plays], or better than your favorite horse. I don't think it's fair to limit them that way. They're incredible athletes. All I can say is, I've had a lot of good ones, and a lot of memorable ones.

Sidelines: What is the most significant development you've seen in the USPA?

RS: To me, it would have to be the development of Polo Properties as a viable income source for the Association. It has expanded the Intercollegiate/Interscholastic program, concepts like the Team USPA program to give young players a chance to work with professionals, expanded the Club Development Initiative. It continues to give back in ways that build a base for future polo players. It gives the sport and the Association a future.

Sidelines: What is the most rewarding part of teaching people to play polo?

RS: It's pretty neat to see how players mature and advance as knowledge of the sport expands. The whole learning



Russ Sheldon and Quincy, who's still playing at age 23

Photo by Lynn Bremner

process involves so much, it's nice to see it pay off when a concept that was once a little blurred becomes clear and executed properly.

Sidelines: Proudest accomplishment on or off the polo field?

RS: Watching my family progress in this sport as players and advancing to a point to give back to the sport in various ways. As horsemen, as players, as coaches, everyone that has played gives something back. Watching my grandkids play in the Interscholastic program in 1999 as a team gave me the motivation to get involved. Gave me a chance to make a difference, involve myself within the Association on various committees and give my point of view when it was asked. I wouldn't be doing this today if it wasn't for that opportunity and my desire to help them.



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DON'T WAIT FOR THE LAST MINUTE, BOOK 2012 NOW! BARNs & HOUSING—all sizes, types & locations available. Holly Chaney, Boca Executive, 561-719-0828, holly@bocaexecutive.com AU10

Continued on next page

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SIDELINES' CLASSIFIEDS

WELLINGTON – 24 STALL BARN; 2 Tack Rooms/Office (12' x 24' each), Grass Field, 250' x 300', 8 paddocks, Sand Ring, 150' x 240', 1100 sq. ft. house, Wash Rack, Laundry Room, 8/10 mile from Littlewood Show Grounds. Call (954) 448-1044

O810

BOARDING AND TURNOUT

AIKEN, SC - Large grassy pastures with trees for shade. \$200/mo first horse and \$150 additional. Will check on horses daily and refill water trough. 803 257-7407

JN27

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SE19

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A206

CAREER IN CUSTOM SADDLE FITTING JRD Saddlery Florida campus has opening for one motivated individual, training available. salary +commission info@jrd-tack.com

NV16

HORSES FOR SALE



BULLETPROOF-- '04 Magnum Foal, 16h3, 6 y/o, TBD/Hanoverian mare, Int'l Young Jumper Futurity Registered. Conformation class winner @ 2&3 y/o. Awesome mover, huge jump, tons of potential. Contact Cynthia LaFave 518-281-9494

SE03



VIVAZ – 16 h 9 y/o TBD MARE – hot type, big jump, fast, super brave. Ideal for 3 day eventing or ch/ad jumpers. Priced to sell. Contact Cynthia La Fave 518-281-9494

SE02



PHABULOUS - '04 HANOVERIAN MARE - by Paparazzo. Shown lightly. Eligible pre-green. Simple for child or adult. Good mover. Job loss forces sale. \$25k Owner/Breeder: fallcreekfarm.com Horse in Wellington 317 937 5543

FE20

DENT FAMILY MIMIATURE HORSE RANCH – Over 55 years, Same location. Photos and videos of "For Sale Horses" at; www.dentranch.com

FE4

DAVIDHOPPERINC – Amenia, New York 12501. Outstanding selection of sport horses-from unbroken to competition ready. Hunters, Jumpers, Dressage, Equitation. All prices, ranges. David Hopper. Cell: 914-474-7175. Barn: 845-373-8897. www.davidhopperinc.com

FE5

HORSES WANTED

URGENT

Karin Offield is looking for a **February LEASE of Schoolmaster for Dressage** Horse remains at home stable for Lessons or stable elsewhere. Intermediate Level Rider requires an Uphill Schoolmaster, 16 hands/large. Passionate rider with Excellent references. Send Video/call 231-242-0012 **In Wellington area, Purchase considered.** **FE6**

EQUESTRIAN COLLEGE RECRUITER

LLC - is looking for some nice school horses that are serviceably sound. These horses can compete on the flat through jumping 3'6". Many colleges are looking for mounts to replace some of their school horses that are retiring. I have placed about 8 horses in the last few months. You get the satisfaction of finding your horse a new home where he will be well cared for and loved and you may qualify for a tax write off. This is a free service and colleges are anxiously waiting on some new arrivals. Please visit www.EquestrianCollegeRecruiter.com and click on the donation link. **JN281**

LAND FOR SALE

AIKEN, SC - HATCHAWAY BRIDGE FARMS. Per acre prices just lowered on some lots. From \$19/ac.....Owner financing available...Beautiful high end equestrian development with four large gorgeous properties already built. Fabulous riding facilities in friendly community. All horse people. Trails, jump fields and dressage ring 803-257-7407 **NV40**

SADDLE TRAIL LAND- This is the only parcel in Saddle Trail Park currently offered for sale. It is high and dry and completely fenced. This is an exceptional lot backed by a canal and the bridle trail, just a 7 min. hack to WEF. Call Now! Mary Ellen Sencer 561 512 4340 Saddle Trail Realty. LLC saddletrailsrealty@gmail.com

FE7

List your ad on the Barn Book
website www.thebarnbook.com - Free classifieds

SIDELINES' CLASSIFIEDS

5 BEAUTIFUL ACRES - in Suwannee County, FL near Live Oak with quick access to Gainesville. Rolling land with beautiful hardwoods. Secluded and perfect for your dream home and horses. High and dry. New Survey included. \$55,000. Owner financing if qualified. Email: tohim@pbtcomm.net or call (803) 466-7399 or (803) 685-5902. M216

PONIES FOR SALE



L'IL DECO - TOBIANO SPORT PONY - 2nd Generation Art Deco - Pinto, Oldenburg/ Shetland cross, 14.1hh Gelding currently training and showing in multiple disciplines - Dressage, Eventing, Hunter/Jumper and Fox Hunting. He sails over 2'9" hunter course jumps with great endurance and accuracy. Foaled February, 2004. Flashy, kind pony with beautiful markings: a Medicine Hat, natural eye tattoo and white eyelashes! Price \$7,500. Call (828) 808-1040 or email: quinnssarah@att.net JA15

SUPER FUN PONY FOR SALE! Welsh Cob cross, 15, 14 H, chestnut with star, strip, snip and flaxen mane/tail. Has done hunters, jumpers, police horse training, parades, trails and Pony Club. Travels great. Will work for short stirrup, older children or small adult. Approved home only. (IN) 260-468-2392 or kim@looncreekenterprises.com, \$2,800. JA10

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FE8

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BEAUTIFUL REGISTERED CAIRN TERRIER PUPPIES for sale located in Aiken, SC. Please email for more information and pictures josephhardiman@msn.com JA16

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT: FOOL'S COTTAGE: Quaint downtown cottage, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, open floor plan all renovated with hardwood floors and granite counter tops. Big picket fenced yard on quiet downtown street. \$1,500/mo Furnished and utilities included 803 649-6989 SamanthaC@SidelinesNews.com Reduced to \$1,200/mo long term without utilities FE21

EQUINE PROPERTY - 5 bedroom 5 full baths 2 1/2 bath home on 50 acres built approx 1998 5 stall barn with work shop/ tack room additional out buildings 2 bedroom caretaker apt above the barn. Pool, 2 acre stocked fish pond, hot tub exercise room 3 stories with all the stuff you want to live the life. Dexter Michigan approx 15 minutes from University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. 1.2 mil firm price reduced from 1.8 Call 810 923 6199 or inquire ggspittler@aol.com FE9

CONCORD, MA-RIVERFRONT FARM Premier equestrian property for sale. \$8,500,000, Ginette Brockway, Keller Williams Realty, 978-621-4370. www.homesandhorses.com. FE10

FARMS FOR SALE -JUPITER HORSE FARM, 8.2 acres, 5-stall barn, tack room, large paddocks, auto waterers, plus a 3 bedroom home, with large garage and parking for a motor home. \$595,000 Pamela B. Coffey J/T Brokers Group, Inc. 1-800-741-4848-x308 jsbk4@aol.com

FE11

35 ACRE HORSE RANCH, DARLINGTON SC - 2461 sq ft home with wrap around porch overlooking pastures. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, swimming pool with bath house, 15 acre fenced hay field, stocked pond, 100' x 200' lighted arena with irrigation and round pin, 8' x 24' concession stand, announcers booth/registration, bathrooms, 14 stalls with turn outs, tack rooms, trailer and camper hook ups, 30' x 80' tractor barn with heated/cooled rec room with half bath, 20' x 90' hay shed with double enclosed garage, 40' x 30' utility barn with garage - Truly a spectacular piece of property with endless possibilities! Contact Teleaha Rowell 843-230-4149 FE12

PADDOCK PARK 11- REDUCED \$899K- A magnificent 4 bed 3 1/2 bath 4200 sq. ft. estate. this home is 5 yrs. old and is in flawless condition. See the virtual tour on utube 1721 Clydesdale Ave, Wellington FL. Adjacent lot also for sale. Call for info! Mary Ellen Sencer 561-512-4340 Saddle Trail Realty, LLC saddletrailsrealty@gmail.com FE13

RALEIGH, NC, beautiful 23 acre horse farm. Great location, must see at Oak Ridge Farm facebook fan page. 919-909-9924. FE14

WELLINGTON / MEADOW WOOD - Beautiful private 1/2 acre lot with CBS 4/3/2 pool home with golf and water view. Minutes to WEF. \$419,000 Kathy Strongin Coldwell Banker 561-252-2443 FE15

WELLINGTON FL: Want more bang for your buck? Give me a call! This is a diamond in the rough. Property includes 10.54 Acres, and sturdy CBS 5/3/2 pool home. Located minutes from all facilities. Valued Priced at \$1,100,000. Pamela Banks, RE/MAX Direct 561-346-1658, PamelaLBanks@comcast.net JA12

WELLINGTON - PALM BEACH POLO- Townhome 3 bedrooms 3 baths Pool home. Golf course & lake views. Move in Ready! \$379,000 Lisa Talio Coldwell Banker 561-373-6783 JA13

Continued on next page

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WELLINGTON, FLORIDA - Equestrian Estate Pool Home. Boasting 7682 square feet of Living Area, 5 bedrooms plus loft, 4 full/2 half baths, 3 car garage on 1.4 Acres. Located on a private cul-de-sac, this home is in close proximity to Show Grounds and Equestrian Facilities. Asking price is \$2.3 Million. Call Kim Jenard for details and/or to schedule a private showing at (561)644-9650. Realtor/Coldwell Banker RE. NV18

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WELLINGTON FL. - 5 acres - 7 stall barn with feed and tack rooms, and 2 bedrooms and 1 bath cottage with pool. Minutes to Show grounds, and Palmetto Training center. Priced for QUICK SALE or LEASE Call 305-439-1350 JN29

FOX TRAIL - Magnificent 4 master BR's, 5 BA estate home, 5736 LA, pool, plus 2 cottages. 7 stall barn with tongue and grove ceiling, W/D, Kitchen & sand ring. \$1.150.000 Joan Marino, Home Run R.E. 561-793-2122 SE10

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RENTALS

AIKEN, SC - 2/1 lovely barn apartment with stalls and turnout also available. Seasonal and weekly or weekend prices... call 803 649-6989 NV21

MEADOWOOD - 2 BEDROOMS -private home. Separate entrance, kitchenette, nice bathroom.\$1000.00 per room. Prefer female .Call Jim for more information 775-671-7366 FE16

WELLINGTON SEASONAL RENTAL - 4/2 garage, screened pool/ jacuzzi with 2/1 guest house. \$5200. min 3 months. House only \$3500, Guest house \$2200. 561-252-5478 JA14

FOR RENT, 4BR/2BA/2CG -Pool home on small lake located 1.5 miles from Wellington Polo grounds. Surrounded by all types of stores and mall for your shopping convenience. \$2,800 per month includes all utilities, cable and internet. 3 month minimum. \$2,000 security deposit. Call Lauren @ 561-714-5413 FE25

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SUZANNE LA PORTE - DRESSAGE; Seasonal training in Loxahatchee, FL. 561-909-8163 or 561-644-7543 JA08

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